No. 555.
VIRGINIA
WHITE EXPRESS CIGARETTES
TURKISH
No. 444.

No Profiteering! in "John Bull" Pens. Coupon on Page 15.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVII. No. 718. SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1920. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

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CITY RD., LONDON, E.C.1.
Branches and Agencies throughout the United Kingdom.

Resting, but Watchful

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

MY NEXT MOVE

BY HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

A LETTER FOR YOU

Market Harborough,
6th March, 1920.

Dear Mrs. Bull,

It is the quality of Symington's Soups that makes them so desirable. Symington's are the dependable soups—the richest in food-value and the most economical in the end. They combine the most necessary elements of nutrition in a simple, perfectly balanced form. They do away with all the trouble and expense of making soups in the ordinary way. There are no vegetables or other ingredients to purchase, no cleaning and no cutting up. Everything you want is in the packet—everything of the cleanest, purest and best.

Symington's Soups are a great boon in these days of high costs—and they save time, fuel and labour.

Yours ever,
The Proprietors of Symington's Soups.

Many Varieties—2½d. & 6d. per packet.
W. SYMINGTON & Co., Ltd.,
Bowden Steam Mills, Market Harborough.

FIVE YEARS' HELL in a Country Parish.

By the Rev. Edward Synnott, Rector of RUSPER, Sussex,

whose recent trial and acquittal by the Ecclesiastical Courts created such a tremendous sensation. The series of articles which he begins to-day (and which will appear exclusively in "Answers") will be read and discussed in every hamlet and village in the country. They are fearless and outspoken.

The Rev. E. Synnott is the first clergyman to take his courage in both hands and expose, sternly and ruthlessly, the evil of idle chatter and scandal-mongering in the rural parishes of England.

Read the Rev. Edward Synnott's AMAZING DISCLOSURES in this week's

ANSWERS

Price 2d.

of all Newsagents.

Thin, Sleepless and Nervous.

Brought to Vigorous Health by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Before taking Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Mrs. E. M. Johnson, of 12, Maryland Road, Stratford, London, E.15, says:—"It was in 1915, during the air raids, that I began to feel ill, going from bad to worse, till severe nervous breakdown resulted. I could neither eat nor sleep, and the pain I was in after food was simply awful. I was a martyr to headache, too, and so weak that I could do nothing. I was just a nervous wreck, wasted to a shadow, and afraid to be left alone. To go out by myself terrified me, and at last I could not go out at all. So I went on for about twelve months in weariness and pain all day, and sleepless at night. I had medical advice and medicine, but it was no use.

"At last I got Dr. Cassell's Tablets, and they surprised me. I began to feel better directly; I could eat, I could sleep, and my health returned rapidly. Now I am as well and strong as ever."

Present Day.

Dr. Cassell's Tablets

Dr. Cassell's Tablets are the recognised Home Treatment for—

Nervous Breakdown	Kidney Trouble
Nerve Paralysis	Indigestion
Spinal Weakness	Malnutrition
Nervous Debility	Wasting Diseases
Sleeplessness	Palpitation
Anæmia	Premature Decay

Specially valuable for Nursing Mothers and during the Critical Periods of Life.

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If you desire further information relative to the suitability of Dr. Cassell's Tablets in your case, free of all charge, write to Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., Chester Rd., Manchester, Eng.

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(the 3/- size the more economical). Sold by Chemists in all parts of the world. Refuse substitutes.

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NO matter how old your suit may be, it can be cleaned, "turned" and made to look like new. Outbreast pockets, buttonholes and defective parts overcome by our French Invisible Weaving Staff. Suits, Overcoats and Ladies' Costumes are all capable of being "turned" by the Invisible Repair Co.'s scientific method.

Write for Descriptive Booklet and send garments for estimate.

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Splendid Offer of New Military

15/- LEATHER WAISTCOATS

LINED WITH SILVER-GREY WOOL

For outdoor, winter wear these Waistcoats are ideal combining absolute protection with perfect comfort. Each garment is guaranteed and has passed Government inspection. If made to-day would cost at least 25/- each. OUR PRICE, 15/-

Cash with Order (Money Back Guarantee). Orders treated in strict rotation. All goods sent Carriage Paid. *Hundreds of other Bargains. Send for List.*

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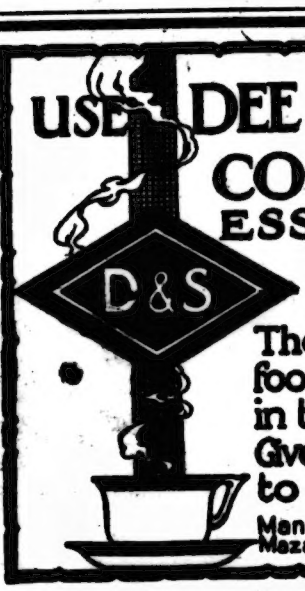

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Manufactured by the Mazawattee Tea Co. Ltd.

Hinde's

HAIR TINT FOR GREY OR FADED HAIR.

Tints grey or faded hair any natural shade desired — brown, dark-brown, light-brown or black. It is permanent and washable, has no grease, and does not burn the hair. It is used by over three-quarters of a million people. A Medical Certificate accompanies each bottle. Of all Chemists, Stores, and Hairdressers, 2/6 the Flask or direct from HINDES Ltd., 1, Tabernacle Street, City, London.

Patentees and Manufacturers of the World-Famous Hindes Wavers.

JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."
Milton.

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"For forms of government let fools contest:
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVII. No. 718. **Week ending Saturday, March 6th, 1920.** **Twopence.**

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Wrekin.
The Labour people have taken their beating badly. According to the *Daily News*, Mr. Duncan's supporters are busy "endeavouring to obtain evidence to justify a Petition against Mr. Palmer's return." Up to the time of going to press the quest had proved futile.

"Deplorable!"
Says the *Manchester Guardian*: "The fact that a Bottomley candidate can get in for any constituency might make a democrat despair." And, strange to say, the plutocrats don't like it either.

A Bad Shot.
By the way, our contemporary was a bit unlucky in attributing the defeat of Mr. Duncan to the fact that "he was almost a jingo," and then going on to take comfort because at Paisley the Labour man "belongs to the extreme wing," and predicting better luck for him!

Paisley.
We need not say how gratified we are at Mr. Asquith's success. It was a purely personal triumph — and in these days Personalities are greater than Parties. But it will mean the disintegration of the Coalition —for most of the Liberals love "the Old Man."

The Pendulum.
Was there ever a more remarkable example of the swing of the political pendulum than the fact that a Coalition candidate, with the blessing of Mr. Bonar Law, should fail to poll the statutory minimum votes and have to forfeit his deposit?

The Passing of Sir Donald.
Of course the return of Mr. Asquith will mean the eclipse of Sir Donald Maclean, who has so valiantly held the Liberal fort in the new Parliament. His ever-growing hold upon the House has been a tribute to that force and sincerity of character which, after all, are the greatest of all parliamentary assets.

Stockport.
Ah, what about Stockport? The Independent man is already there—you see, we do not have to wait for caucus meetings and all the rest of it. We just go straight to the electors. For the rest, see our leading article.

Parliament.
We regret that a bad cold, with total loss of voice, kept us away from the House last week, but Mr. Palmer was there, and was one of the stalwarts who went into the Division Lobby in favour of increased pre-war pensions for retired policemen—as we should also certainly have done.

An Anagram.
Charles PALMER—REAL M.P.

Mr. Wilson.
Be prepared for a sensational announcement respecting President Wilson.

Still Frightened!
Meanwhile, what do you think of the climb-down of the "Big Three" over the Adriatic Question? The "*Big* Three," indeed!

Anyone Seen Our Boy?
We really believe we are going to find him. Read Mr. "Smiler" Hales' report on another page.

Ironical.
At Coulsdon a new church has just been built—composed entirely of asbestos! Think it over.

A Wise K.C.
Mr. E. G. Hemmerde, K.C., has decided to stand as "Labour" candidate—for Crewe! Wise man—there *was* some talk of his coming to Stockport!

"If you see It——"
The following was our prediction respecting Ashton, Wrekin and Paisley—"One for the Coalition; One for the Independents, and One for the Wee Frees." Not bad guessing, was it?

American Abuse.
Thus an American correspondent: "You are either a blockhead or a cheap and contemptible liar." A blockhead and a contemptible liar, if you like—but certainly not cheap.

"A. G. G." Upset.
Our distinguished confrère "A. G. G.," of the *Daily News*, is terribly upset because the country is "now apparently turning from Mr. Lloyd George to Mr. Bottomley." What *will* he say of Stockport?

Lucky Shareholders.
Congratulations to shareholders in this journal on the scheme now officially announced for the fusion of their interests with those of Odhams Limited. And congratulations equally to *their* shareholders. Carmelite House must look to its laurels.

Postal Enterprise.
We were rather surprised the other day to find amongst our mail a postcard addressed simply "Horatio, London." But on turning it over we found it began with "Man of the People"—which, of course, assisted the Post Office a great deal.

Armenia and Montenegro.
It now appears pretty certain that these are the two sacrificial lambs to be led to the altar of Political Expediency. It is a base betrayal.

The *Deutschland*.
The days for seeing the great German submarine in London are rapidly drawing to a close. She will soon be on her way to the coastal towns. So, hurry up.

A Poor Book.
Our hon. friend Mr. Kennedy Jones has written a book about the Press. He calls it "Fleet Street and Downing Street." We suggest he should withdraw it from sale, and get a practical journalist to bring it up to date.

Candidates Wanted.
Will ladies and gentlemen who are prepared to stand as Independent candidates for Parliament on the lines upon which the Wrekin Election was won, forward us their names and addresses, stating their experience and other qualifications?

Lady Astor.
We much regret that we were unable to be in the House to hear Lady Astor's "maiden" speech, but we look forward to the opportunity of crossing words with this Pussyfoot lady when the new Liquor Control Bill comes up for discussion. She was let off very lightly.

Nickel Coins.
We are in a position to state that, however cautious may be the official attitude, in public, towards the matter, the *National News*—brightest and best of Sunday papers—was correct in its exclusive announcement that nickel coins are coming.

Turkey.
In the days when we travelled the country, cheering up the people in the dark hours of the war, none of the things on which we insisted received more general assent than that the Sultan should be turned, bag and baggage, out of Europe. By allowing him to remain in Constantinople, the Government are committing a grave blunder.

An Amazing Answer.
Asked by us whether any representation has been made by the Government to the United States in reference to the invitation now appearing in the American Press for subscriptions to a Loan issued by the "Irish Republic," the Foreign Secretary replied that "the answer is in the negative." What do you think of it?

Local Limerick.

(*Mr. Wright, Sutton, Lincs., has a hare which he has tamed and taught to play the tambourine.*)

There's a hare that can rattle a tune
On the tambo; so now very soon,
When a cat scrapes the fiddle
Then, hey-diddle-diddle!
The cow *will* jump over the moon!

The Whisky Mystery.

Proprietary whiskies, 30 degrees under proof, are still being exported from this country at 6s. 4d. per bottle, whereas it is only by wondrous luck that the man-in-the-street can purchase one at 10s. 6d. Presumably the explanation is that the wholesale merchant gets a bigger profit on whisky shipped abroad duty free. But it is poor consolation for sufferers from the 'flu.

Bluggy.

A belated and bluggy warning reaches us through the post. It, however, illustrates the familiar admonition that you should never prophesy until you know. "Sir," says the writer, "Opening of Parliament will be the bloody week. As you are a very great favourite of the fighting men you are asked not to attend. You and Lady Astor will not be in any harm if you will not attend the House which is going to be destroyed and the traitors of England with it." Nothing has happened, but we thank the writer for his courteous consideration for Lady Astor and ourselves.

More Victimisation.

Another case of a railwaymen's Friendly Society coming under the brute heel of extremists is reported from Reading. The men there have a slate club among themselves. Members who did not join the strike have been denied readmission to it for 1920. In the first place, it is hard to see any reason for mixing up a simple sick and benefit club with Trade Union and strike disputes. In the second, it is one more instance of that victimisation which Mr. Thomas pledged himself should not occur. It is for him to rectify the situation and put an end to such spiteful tyranny.

"Selling the Pass."

It is all very well for the Ministry of Shipping, in reply to a resolution passed by the Seamen's Union protesting against the sale of British ships to foreign owners who do not employ Britons, to say that the Controller "is satisfied that the permanent interests of the Mercantile Marine of this country would not be served by a rigid prohibition of any such sales." The poignant and serious fact remains that, in the Bristol Channel district alone, there are at the present time 11,000 Masters, Officers, Engineers, Sailors, Firemen, and other ratings, out of employment. Is *this* in the permanent interests of the Mercantile Marine?

Brighter Days in Store.

At last the pre-war police pensioners are to have something like a "living wage"—a measure of justice we have long advocated. According to Mr. W. J. H. Turner, Hon. Sec. of the Retired Police Officers' Association, there are in London to-day 1,881 police pensioners whose pensions are under 20s. weekly. "Every one of these men," says Mr. Turner, "has broken down in health and been unable to complete his full time. Many of them are living in abject poverty, and suicides have occurred." Thank heaven that at last the just demand of these unfortunates is not to go unheeded, although they have no power to strike!

The Annuitant's Burden.

Another Income Tax grievance! The purchaser of a life annuity through the Post Office or an Insurance Company is required to pay tax upon it at the full unearned rate, in all respects as though it were an ordinary investment—no allowance whatever being made for the loss of capital involved. Surely this anomaly must have escaped the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Could it be Helped?

We are not quite satisfied with the account of the circumstances in which a lad of 14, employed by the L.S.W. Ry. Co. at Farnham, was knocked down and killed by a passing train. It seems that, although engaged on dangerous work, the poor boy had received only a week's perfunctory instruction from one a little older than himself, and, in these circumstances, we should have expected the officials of the Company to be subjected to a closer cross-examination by the Coroner—who seems to have paid too little attention to certain aspects of the case.

FOR THIS WEEK ONLY!

£500

MUST BE WON

FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS

or next largest number of winning teams.

Fill up the Free Coupon on page iii. of cover.

Sugar Mixed.

Confusion becomes worse confounded in the sugar mystery. During the war the Pussyfoot orators screamed at us day and night that the shortage of sugar was due to the brewing of beer; Mr. Chamberlain now tells us from his place in the House of Commons that "the United States has gone dry and is in consequence eating more sugar." Is the solution of the contrariety due to the fact that, as they can no longer get any sugar to drink, they are determined to lay hands on all they can to eat?

Promised Profits.

The chemist, if he believe in shrieking advertisements, has the primrose path of profiteering opened unto him in the pages of a trade journal. Says one company, offering him tooth powder, "Maintain your Profits! There is no need to reduce them! 125 per cent. is the return for you on ——Tooth Powder." We omit the name for an obvious reason. Overleaf, a "Crushed Rose Face Powder" puffer says that selling his stuff means 250 per cent. profit. The drawback to these magnificences is that the chemist who buys may find no market for the stock. Then his dreams of avarice will be up a gum-tree.

Two-shilling Watches.

Two men, Morris Simons and Adolph Rubin, were at Dover fined, respectively, £33 and £48 for smuggling 25 and 36 watches, when travelling by the Ostend Packet. The amounts totted up to another "packet," and as the men could not pay, three months' jail was the alternative—a heavy sentence unless they were recognised practitioners on the boats. A point of interest was the statement by Simons that the watches cost less than 2s. in Cologne. It shows how Germany is producing its goods cheaper than ever, and is also a sharp reminder that inflated prices for home-made articles cannot be justified.

A Bit of Old Chelsea.

Realising that £30 to £40 a year is inadequate pay for fully-trained nurses, and that a bonus of 20 to 30 per cent. scarcely meets the case, in view of the fact that the cost of living has increased 130 per cent. since 1914, the large-hearted Chelsea Guardians actually agreed to give the Infirmary nursing staff an all-round increase of—hold your breath, dear reader!—*two pounds per year*, or 9½d. per week!! We trust the recipients will not dissipate their sudden access of wealth in riotous living.

Some Job.

One of our readers, an ex-soldier of Marylebone, has been offered a Pooh-Bah job of considerable dimensions by a West End veterinary surgeon; wages fifteen bob per week and live in. Applicant, who had to appear before the vet.'s wife, was "required to look after a horse and vehicle, clean boots, knives, etc., assist the cook and gardener, milk a cow, and possess an expert knowledge of gardening." He was also asked if he could cook, presumably with a view to his relieving the present expert in emergency. The lady said she wanted a handy man. What she needs, in fact, is a variety artist

Foreigners and Flying.

Residents of Hinton Admiral and Milton, near Lymington, Hants, regard with disfavour the proposal to establish in their midst a flying and wireless school by the Oriental Mercantile Air Navigation, Ltd., of which a Dutchman named Van Hoytemer, and a Mr. Vanderstein, a naturalised British subject, are stated to be directors. The idea seems to be to promote an international flying school, where youths from all over the Continent will forgather and live luxuriously in an hotel which is to cost some £130,000 to construct. The local inhabitants consider it against the best interests of the country that an alien air school should be erected on our shores. And we agree.

Held-Up by the G.P.O.

We are not concerned at the moment with the motive of the Government in instructing the P.M.G. to arrest letters containing money for Continental sweepstakes, but we shall be interested in observing how long it takes for the cash to be returned to senders. The Post Office rarely exceeds the speed limit in cases of this kind. We know of an instance of an undelivered foreign money order which, despite the filling up of countless forms and the exchange of a mass of correspondence over a period of eight months, has not yet been refunded to the sender. We advise frustrated participants in Continental "sweeps" to expect their held-up money when they see it.

One to Our Side.

We have discovered what advertisers call an "unsolicited testimonial" in a Shropshire newspaper. A writer tells how he grew potatoes in 1918, sold early varieties at £6 or £7 a ton, but was forbidden by the Potato Controller to sell his main crop under £9. The price was unobtainable, so he bought straw and stored his tubers. They began to get frost-bitten, so, says he, "I sought the assistance of John Bull. Result:—I was allowed to sell locally, but could not send by rail. I sold 21 ton. The remainder were so damaged by frost that I had to dump them." The letter, containing personal compliments in acknowledgment of our assistance, was written *after* the Wrekin election, so its good faith is above suspicion.

Local Limerick.

(*Mr. Barkes, K.C., Magistrate of the South-Western Police Court, says women go on talking like a stream, and he despairs of stopping them till the Day of Judgment.*)

There's a beak who says each pretty poppet
Who once starts to talk will not drop it;
Her talk, it would seem,
Gushes on like a stream,
Though you dam it, you never can stop it.

Another.

Official announcement is made that the Central Profiteering Committee, with McCurdie master of ceremonies, are about to start another Inquiry into the "cost of production and prices generally" of buttons. Looks like another hold-up.

A Doubtful Firm.

The Business Names Register affords us no assistance in tracing the identity of the so-called Self-Help Employment Company, of 46, Bridge Street, Manchester. Ostensibly, the object of this concern is to provide disabled soldiers with outdoor work—consisting, it appears, of hawking stationery from door to door. We are not enamoured of the Company's scheme—for one reason, it adopts the discreditable device of leaving unasked-for goods and then worrying for money on their return; for another, that such a calling is dishonourable to our disabled heroes.

Country Roads.

It is high time rural authorities awoke to the fact that their roads, long unattended and cut up by heavy Army wagons, need properly repairing and mending. Cavities of the shell-hole variety are allowed to remain, and surfaces have not been levelled for years. Roads out of London are reported bad, and provincial accounts are to the same effect. Around Norwich the soldiers are reminded of the devastated area in France. The relighting of lonely thoroughfares also needs attention. Lamps without light should be things of the past.

Two Ways of It.

Over the name of Mrs. S. J. Frost, 3, Craven Park, Harlesden, is an advert. for the services of a married couple, wife as cook-general, man (ex-Service preferred) to do gardening and help in the house; joint salary, £70. The queer thing is that the couple shall have "no children"—the old, sad stipulation, but yet Mrs. Frost lays it down that they "must be accustomed to children." This is startlingly incongruous. Though with no blessings of their own, the couple must be affectionately familiar with little ones. The love for children that is founded on those of other folk is a heartrending affection.

An "Eligible" Property.

It is not always that the attractions of "residential property" are so exhaustively set out as by Mr. D. Sherrin, of Whitstable, who has "a detached old-fashioned thatched cottage" for sale. Most obligingly, Mr. Sherrin states that the cottage is "two and a half minutes' walk to the Rose and Bloom Inn," "twenty-five minutes' to the Boar and Key," and "twenty-five and a half minutes' to the Duke of Cumberland Hotel." Further, the property is "fifty-nine miles from London," and, by a singular coincidence, "fifty-nine miles back." A trifle depressing, perhaps, is the intimation "forty minutes' walk to the cemetery." But none should cavil at a catalogue of conveniences so varied and complete.

A Vile Offence.

As often as we find Magistrates paltering with their plain duty in respect of indecent outrages upon children, we take leave to denounce their conduct as utterly subversive of public morality. The latest offender in this respect is the Stipendiary of Bradford—Mr. Beaumont Morice—who thinks three months' imprisonment sufficient punishment for a beast who, for the foulest of purposes, waylays a five-year-old girl. Mr. Morice, we believe, has no children of his own—perhaps that is why he can look so leniently upon this unspeakable class of crime.

An Inhuman Traffic.

The fate of worn-out horses, some of them veterans of the Great War, moves the pity of a Midland reader, who wants "to punish the dealers who gain their living at the expense of these poor suffering creatures." The scandal is one of long standing, which has figured prominently in these columns from time to time. Undoubtedly, the law needs strengthening to curb and check what to all lovers of the dumb creation is a disgusting traffic in flesh and blood. The R.S.P.C.A. should keep a sharp look out at the ports where these unfortunate beasts are collected for shipment abroad.

Rum.

Because somebody Barmouth way has been saying that rum won the battle of the Somme, a rev. gent. of the town, one P. H. Lewis, has made a sermon about it. The epistle according to Lewis winds up in the local press: "May our dear country soon be dry like the large continent of the West—the vision of Barmouth without any of these drinking palaces makes us leap with joy." He reminds us of the days of David, when the mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like lambs. It will be a sad and distant day, for sure, when Barmouth skips like Lewis. For in that day there will be many mouths, but no bar.

ARE YOU COLLECTING
JOHN BULL Pen Coupons?
SEE PAGE 15

False Economy.

There are instances of hasty demobilisation of staffs which have resulted in heavy loss to the Exchequer. The break up of that section of the Ministry of Munitions dealing with free transit is one of them. This section last year recovered between £70,000 and £80,000 from contractors who had used "transit notes" when they should have paid rail carriage, and its work was done at a cost of £6,000—a clear gain of at least £60,000 to the Exchequer. Yet this profitable section has been abolished when a further £60,000 remains to be recovered.

Low Wages.

Requiring the services of a male clerk, the Saltash War Pensions Sub-Committee patriotically announce that the preference will be given to a "disabled Service man." What spoils the picture is the totally inadequate wage of 56s. weekly offered, a figure falling far short of the minimum demanded for their members by the great industrial Trade Unions, and, being below that paid by many public bodies to scavengers and other menial but necessary workers. To dock a man's wages because of his Army pension is a scandal that the Committee should be at pains to avoid.

Bexhill Gas.

We should like to see the calculations on which the Bexhill Gas Co. base their charge of 7s. 5d. per thousand cubic feet for quarterly accounts, and 8s. 4d. per thousand for supplies through slot meters. Windsor can supply gas at 3s. 10d. per thousand. Why should Bexhill gas be double the price?

Straining at Gnats.

At Doncaster Police Court a crippled soldier with a bullet in his spine, £2 a week pension, and "dead beat," was lately summoned for raffling a raincoat in shares of 1s. each. The kind-hearted Superintendent Minty, who brought the charge, was good enough to say he did not press for a heavy penalty; and the two Cadis, Messrs. Shiffner and Oxley, put their sapient heads together and fined the poor chap 40s. for an offence that is frequently committed at Church bazaars. This in a town famous for its racecourse owned by the Corporation!

No Thanks for Tank.

There must be a lot of pretty patriots living in King's Lynn. Because the Tank presented to the town in recognition of the local War Savings effort attracts the attention of the youngsters, who have been observed to heave bricks at it, the Town Council was petitioned for its removal. Some soulless Councillors suggested that it should be disposed of to a marine stores dealer, broken up, hidden, or thrown into the river Ouse. Having no patriotic imagination, they cannot appreciate what the war-scarred weapon stands for—that it is both a symbol and a monument.

"Crown and Anchor."

It is to be hoped that by this time two Portsmouth Magistrates feel remorse gnawing at their vitals. They recently sentenced two young bluejackets to a month's hard labour, and dubbed them "rogues and vagabonds," for having a little flutter on the "Crown and Anchor" board. If those who indulge in the game are to be adjudged rogues and vagabonds, then the bulk of our lately disbanded Expeditionary Force come under that category. Dr. R. Emmett and Major C. H. Hannington are doubtless utter strangers to the Bridge table and the Turf. Otherwise they could never have had the hardihood to treat so harshly a venial "offence."

Hard Lines.

In these days children must go to school and learn their lessons whether parents like it or not. Undoubtedly, however, there are hard cases. For instance, Mrs. Sherwood, a "Contemptible's" widow, of Fairfax Drive, Westcliff, was fined 10s. by the local Magistrate for not sending her six-year-old child regularly to school. The youngster had made 75 attendances out of 96 possible. The school is half-an-hour's walk each way, and most of the absences, so the mother informs us, were due to her care for the child's health in wintry weather. "I thought I was living in a free country," is the lament of the lady. Nothing is free; with the cost of living ever soaring, even the children have to pay in poor households for fines like these.

A Wonderful Offer.

This week "Bullets" is the biggest prize offer ever made—a first prize of £1,000, a second of £250, and a third of £100; in all over 10,000 prizes, value £2,250, must be won. No reader should miss such a remarkable opportunity. See page 24.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To the Right Hon. Arthur Henderson, M.P.

My Dear Henderson,—First let me express the hope that you have made a good recovery from your recent illness. I would not trouble you at such a time were it not for the very extensive use of your name that is being made in connection with the so-called "Save the Children Fund," under whose auspices the offspring of our late enemies are being brought to this country to be fed and clothed at the expense of British ratepayers. Knowing how difficult it is in these times for our own poor folks to make ends meet—especially the many families bereaved by the war—I am curious to know how you can reconcile this movement with your duty to your own countrymen. Personally, I am bound to declare myself a "conscientious objector." John Bull.

To the Rev. H. E. Metcalfe, Vicar of St. George's, Edgbaston.

Sir,—Your recent advertisement of an unfurnished flat to let no doubt attracted many inquirers—who, I understand, found that the so-called flat consisted of 3 attics, for which you asked a rent varying from £2 18s. 6d. (plus 2s. 6d. for use of bath) to £3 3s. a week. As your stipend is £460 per annum, *with residence*, I should like to know how you justify such an exorbitant demand for indifferent accommodation, for I cannot think that a gentleman of your vocation would dream of taking any undue advantage of the present house shortage.

John Bull.

To Britannia Olivia Parkes, Confectioner, Ventnor.

Dear Madam,—I don't know whether you are "Mrs." or "Miss," but you are certainly a bit of a wag. A sturdy policeman, having nothing better to do, dropped on you for selling sweets to a man at 9.45 on a Sunday night. You sent a little note to the Bench, pointing out that you held a refreshment-house licence to serve up to 10 p.m., and asking if that included the sale of cigarettes and chocolates, "as policemen seem to be the only people acquainted with the law." Further, you expressed your considered opinion that "it was disgusting the way the people of England were dogmatised about," and that "the sooner the Bench got a move on and discovered the man who introduced the Act of 1917 and obliterated it, the better it would be." Whether you want the Man or the Act obliterated is not clear, but as the Magistrates fined you but 10s., after two warnings, I think you had your money's-worth in fun. John Bull.

To the Chairman, Board of Guardians, Bramley, Kent.

Sir,—I was about to write to you in somewhat different terms, but with similar intent, concerning the discreditable and wrongful dismissal by your Board of Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, porter and porteress, and of another married couple as workhouse attendants when I learned from the Press that the Ministry of Health has disapproved this action and that the Guardians have, at least provisionally, withdrawn the notices. The terrible offence of the porter and porteress was they had born to them a child in their apartments and declined on the imperative demand of the Board to "place it out" as a condition of remaining in the service; that of the attendants, that they had a child three years of age in regard to whom like conditions were demanded. As an example of Bumbleism I regard this soulless despotism as one of high record, and if Dr. Addison has powers to enforce reason, and humanity, and justice in the matter, my hope is that he will exercise them to the full.

John Bull.

To Mr. W. J. Selway, West Cranmore, Shepton Mallet.

Dear Farmer,—Up to the time of the latest official rise in the price of milk, you were considerate enough to sell your supplies at 4d. per quart. Since the increase, you have advanced your figure to the modest one of 5d. I congratulate your customers and neighbours who live within the orbit of your munificence, and I felicitate you upon your courage and goodwill in refusing to seek inflated profits. How do you manage it? John Bull.

To the Rev. G. Hoyle, Rector of Hopton Wafers, Salop.

Sir,—I see that your charge for allowing a memorial tablet to the fallen to be placed in your church is £10 10s. If this sum would go into your own pocket, it would, I observe, more than square the £10 you subscribed to the War Memorial Fund. As I cannot imagine that a gentleman of your cloth would care to derive a cash advantage from the gallant dead, I can only conclude that you have some justification for your £10 10s. charge of which I am unaware. Perhaps you will be good enough to enlighten me? John Bull.

To Mrs. A. Williams, Board of Guardians, Ecclesall.

Dear Madam,—You made a very neat point at the meeting of your Board the other day, when you remarked that it seemed very wrong that men in receipt of big pensions were able to accept other posts, while old-age pensioners who went out to work had their allowances stopped. What prompted your observation was the proposal to appoint Superintendent Morton, who is retiring from the Sheffield Police Force with a pension of £350, to the position of Warrant Officer at the Institution at a salary of £225 per annum, while the streets are filled with capable ex-Service men looking in vain for work. But, alas, to them that hath shall be given!

John Bull.

To the Rev. Robert Rees, Charity Trustee, Llanganhafal, South Wales.

Good Sir,—I am glad to see that you have not allowed yourself to be intimidated by the Parish Council into publishing the names of the recipients of the Llanganhafal Parochial Charities of which you, with others, are a Trustee. As you explain, the names are submitted privately to the Council, which ought to be sufficient; and I am in entire agreement with you that to blazon forth the particulars in the public Press without regard to the feelings of the recipients would be "contrary to the true spirit of Charity." I hope that you will stand to your guns, and that your wholesome example will be widely noted.

John Bull.

To W. H. Denson, Esq., Chester Town Council.

Dear Sir,—I am afraid I do not altogether appreciate your reasons for opposing the erection of a large new factory in the City of Chester. To hear you talk, one might imagine there was no such thing as unemployment in the place; that every ex-soldier was suitably provided for, and that there was nothing more important to be considered than the "amenities of the district" and the "beautiful residential areas" about which you had so much to say. However, I see you had your way in the Council, and the firm whose scheme would have furnished employment to hundreds of your fellow-townsmen must seek elsewhere for facilities. Whatever this may have been, it was not business.

John Bull.

To Mr. Alderman Bush, Chairman of Overseers, Bath.

Dear Alderman,—May I suggest to you that, in these days of high prices, 57s. a week can barely be called a living wage for the Rate Collectors under your control? These men have to maintain a respectable appearance and are entrusted with large sums of public money; and it is discreditable to a city so celebrated as Bath that they should receive less for their responsible services than does a horny-handed labourer for his toil. For the honour of the Queen City of the West, see that these men are reasonably remunerated. John Bull.

To Mrs. Waldie, Priorwood, Polton, near Edinburgh.

Madam,—I have noticed your recent advertisement for a cook-general, and am sorry to see you have adopted the ungrateful slogan, "No W.A.A.C. need apply." The implication is that girls who were patriotic enough to answer their country's call in its hour of need are, now that the war is over, not fit to boil and roast, and act as the domestic slaves for the smug *bourgeoisie*. It is such individuals as yourself who are impeding the re-absorption into domestic occupation of thousands of fine girls who are at present compelled to occupy posts which they would gladly relinquish to ex-Servicemen. Persons like yourself are the enemies of the domestic peace and economic welfare of our country. John Bull.

To Police-Constable Baker, Widnes Police Force.

Dear "Robert,"—You were handsomely complimented the other day by the Widnes Bench, and I would like to add my tribute to that of the worthy Magistrates. It appears that a few evenings ago, being out of uniform at the time, you entered the smoke-room at the "Hammer and Pincers," Hough Green, and there, by the exercise of rare detective genius, discovered six of the customers in the act of playing dominoes for penny points. Unfortunately for your case, there was no evidence that the landlord knew anything about it—so, of course, the Magistrates had to dismiss the charge against him; but they seemed to have been very pleased with you, all the same. Perhaps if you serve them up a few more "duds," they will present you with an address on vellum. John Bull.

To Mrs. Tapp, Twitchen, Devon.

Dear Madam,—I cannot refrain from expressing a very natural sympathy with you in the load of grief and hardship which seems to burden your humble life. What I have read of the inquest on your child reveals a shocking state of affairs indeed. The mother of nine other children besides the one gone to its happier home, you have occupied the dilapidated two-roomed cottage in which you now live for eleven years. That cottage, with "a large hole in the roof through which the rain pours," is a rebuke and shame to him who owns it. Your husband has 20s. a week wages, with "two meals daily at the farm." On this miserable—this scandalous—pittance, you, your husband, and your ten children have had to live in this piggery, "with the purchasing power of the sovereign at about 8s.," as the Coroner pointed out. The doctor stigmatised your abode as "unfit for human habitation," and here your child—as precious to you doubtless as the child of the richest woman in the land to her—died of malnutrition. And this is in our England! Madam, I am shocked to the heart; and I shall ask you to accept, in the course of an early post, some help in the present alleviation of your pathetic distress. John Bull.

THE GAME OF GRAB.

EXORBITANT CHARGES OF WEST-END "BUREAU."

The so-called "International Bureau" conducted by Mrs. M. F. Boucher at 33, Cliveden Place, S.W., is a sort of glorified Registry Office, whose fees are on the level of its exalted title. A case has recently been brought to our notice in which, through the agency of Mrs. Boucher, a children's nurse obtained a situation at £40 per annum, at a registration fee of 3s. 9d., the mistress paying £1 8s. 6d.—so that if Mrs. Boucher had stopped there she would have done very nicely. But although, as the girl informs us, there had been no such arrangement at the beginning, Mrs. Boucher proceeded to demand from her a commission of 1s. in the £ on her salary, the final account presented amounting to £2 4s. This was at the end of December, and on February 2nd, when the "debt" had been handed to a Trade Protection Agency for collection, it had grown to £2 6s. 9d. Nearly £4 seems vastly in excess of any reasonable charge for services rendered. This aspect of the "servant problem" may repay closer attention.

GIVING COOK A HAND.

HOW "JOHN BULL" STIRRED UP ST. ERMINS.

A superior woman, who was employed by the Government for three years at Woolwich, was, upon her discharge, sent to the Y.W.C.A. Hostel, 87, Finchley Road, N.W., for training in cookery. She "stuck it" for nine weeks, being mainly employed in the most menial work, such as washing up, cleaning out dormitories, etc., and receiving no proper tuition in cookery—there being, in fact, no classes in that valuable art at the hostel. Upon protesting, her life there was rendered far from happy; so she came to us, explained all the circumstances, and we took her case up with the Ministry of Labour Training Department, St. Ermins, Westminster. We must say that our representations were very courteously received, and that the woman in whom we were interesting ourselves was given an opportunity to study, but *for three weeks only*, under an advanced chef at the Westminster Technical Institute. A three weeks' course in high class cookery seeming to us an absurdity, we again interceded, and are glad to say we secured for her an extension of training from which she was soon benefiting. The Employment Department of the Ministry of Labour might well exercise a little more discretion as to the class of person sent to the Y.W.C.A. for training.

DEAD AND DISHONOURED

SON'S BRUTAL TREATMENT OF AGED PARENTS.

Having listened to the story of the abominable treatment of his aged parents by John James Timmins, of 71, Parkgate Road, Chester, the local Coroner "regretted that such a thing should have happened in a respectable household in that city." And so we should think. This drunken lout returned to his parents' home, and after pouring foul insults upon his poor old mother, whose worst fault probably was that she had been too patient with his evil temper, proceeded to attack his aged father, a decrepit old man of 81. A few days later the victim of this gross and inhuman outrage died. The jury decided, upon the medical evidence, that the old man would have died in any case from natural causes. So John James Timmins will suffer no penalty for as cowardly and brutal an assault as can well be imagined. Nothing could have been more pathetic than the spectacle of the poor old lady telling how her son threatened to set fire to the bed on which his father was lying, and finally bundled the old couple into the street "daring them to return." It is no good for Timmins to blame "the drink." Drink or no drink, only a blackguard could have been guilty of such behaviour.

BARRATT'S DOUBLE SOLE BOOT.

Wearers of this unique boot are not slow to recognise and appreciate its advantages, for their orders come along with unfailing regularity. So will yours once you have tried it. Read on

HEALTH AND COMFORT.

The ordinary type of boot has only one layer of wearing leather between the foot and the icy-cold road. This absorbs the dampness which is the common cause for that uncomfortable "cold feeling" that most people have experienced.

Barratt's Double Sole Boot has two layers of wearing leather, the outer layer acting as a non-conductor against damp, so that the second layer (which is nearer the foot) is untouched by the cold or damp. The natural result is a feeling of WARMTH and COMFORT to the wearer.

LONG WEAR.

In an ordinary single sole boot the foundation soon become ruined by repairing, leaving the bottoms mutilated and susceptible to damp, and therefore unfit for further use. The Double Sole Boot (obtainable only from Barratt's) cannot be damaged at the foundation during repairs because it is never interfered with, and you can continue to repair it time after time. It will never give way at the foundation.

SEND **37/6** for Sample Pair.
Post Free.
Each Pair tested and guaranteed.

This Clump Sole Itself Gives Ten Weeks' Extra Wear

Style 1635.

Sizes: All Gent's sizes stocked from 5 to 12 (size 12, 1/- extra). Each size made in four widths: narrow, medium, wide and extra wide. If size is not known, send pencilled outline of stockinged foot. Boots exchanged or money refunded if unsuitable.

LONDON DEPOTS:
36, Oxford Street, W.
21 & 22, Cheapside, E.C.
57, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
166, Strand, W.C.
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Send 3d. postage for large Illustrated Art Catalogue.

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"Footshape" Boot Works, NORTHAMPTON.

A DEED OF DESPOTS.

TRADE UNION TAKES BREAD OUT OF MAN'S MOUTH.

How the despots in some of the Trade Unions are taking the bread out of other men's mouths is well illustrated by the facts of a case reported to us. The victim is a bookbinder, who at 18 voluntarily left his job to serve his country as a soldier, while many of his fellow-workers remained behind; and but for this at least one of them would not now be in his present job. The young man's employers, Walker & Co., of Hill Street, Finsbury, E.C., made repeated applications for his discharge and was at last successful, but when he took up his tools the men in the Union refused to work with him on the ground that he was not a Union member. Though a competent workman, he was in fact not qualified, being under age. The Union officials appear to have advised him to return to work as an apprentice. He did so, and the men promptly downed tools "because they had already one apprentice to eight men." Anxious to put things right and keep them harmonious, the employer then paid, or offered to pay, full Union contributions during the apprenticeship, but the Union refused the money because the young man was not a member. Thus beaten and baffled, he took work utterly unsuitable to him in another place. Eventually he had to give this up, and returned to his old employer, who kindly invited him to chance his arm again. In a few minutes one man, and then another, approached him to ask what wage he was getting and whether he was a Unionist. The inquirers were referred to the employer. Within twenty-four hours the effective retort of the men was that he was not there in the status of an apprentice, nor was he a Unionist—the result being that he had again to pack his tools and leave. It is a typically disgraceful business—cruel, selfish, mean and tyrannical. The young man is simply not a Unionist because he is not old enough to be one. Until he is old enough the Union's verdict is that for all they care he may starve—and be damned to him! They won't let him work, and that means they won't let him live.

THE HUN OFFENSIVE.

ARE WE TO TAKE "DUMPING" LYING DOWN?

While the Anti-Dumping Bill has got no farther than the King's Speech, the Huns are getting on with the business in unmistakable fashion, the sale of picture-postcards and other items of "art craft" being, as formerly, one of their leading lines. A week ago we drew attention to a case in which a German firm were operating through London agents, offering goods at a figure that can have barely covered the cost of production; frequently, however, the approach is by letter direct from the German export house, one of the most unblushing of these Hun adventurers being Herr A. G. Sprotte, of 65, Gartenstrasse, Breslau. Former offers, Herr Sprotte informs his prospective clients, are "now no more current," but he has a variety of attractive wares to introduce, his leading line being "Oriental Postcards of Art," including, as a special attraction, "whole figure of a nude model in best coloured performance." Should "the beauteousness of the Orient" not appeal to the hard-headed British shopkeeper, there are other notable bargains—hand-painted picture postcards of a less sultry description, pencils, ink-pencils, and cane penholders—the last named at the extremely moderate price of 6s. a gross. These terms, Herr Sprotte explains, are for "cash on the livery." For a specimen of this Breslau merchant's engaging circular we are indebted to a large firm of manufacturing stationers in the City who, their letter states, "have reason to believe that the dumping of pens and pencils has already commenced." Perhaps Sir Auckland Geddes will kindly report the fact to the Prime Minister with a view to early action.

MORE POISON FROM THE PRESS.

PERNICIOUS LITERATURE WHICH IS SERVED OUT THROUGH THE POST OFFICE.

By Charles Palmer, M.P.

No one appreciates more than I do the priceless value of the freedom of the Press, and as one who was made to suffer under the Asquith Government for proclaiming to the world the truth about the Kitchener plot, I am not likely to write or say a word which would interfere with those legitimate liberties for which we have fought. But there is all the difference between liberty and licence, and to-day this country is suffering from a grievous lack of supervision and control on the part of the authorities. I am not concerned at the moment to apportion the blame to any particular Minister or Department. But the fact remains that this country is being flooded by pernicious literature from poisonous pens. In my opinion, it is the first duty of the Government to stop this flow of anti-British propaganda which, unless checked, is calculated to inflict the gravest possible harm.

Already I have exposed in these columns the pestilential efforts of renegades like Frank Harris, Alister Crowley, Aubrey Stanhope, Philip Price, and a certain Rev. Richard Lee. The Government, so far as I can ascertain, have taken no steps to deal with these traitors, and, for all I know, they are at liberty at any moment to return to this country. But while there appears to be complete indifference as to the action or whereabouts of men of this type, there is at the same time a deliberate avoidance of responsibility by the Government in the matter of the poisonous products of the German and Continental Press. If the Post Office can concern itself in regard to the lottery letters which leave this country, it is strange that a plea of inability to censor incoming letters and packages is put forward. Any money could be spent on this great and necessary precaution during the war; why should all supervision have ceased just because we are technically at peace? In truth, we should be at war with a propaganda which is likely to prove a menace as serious as it is subtle.

For instance, I have lately received a copy of "An Open Letter to an English Officer, and Incidentally to the English People." It is the effort of a certain Ferdinand Hansen, of Hamburg, who is doing his best to scatter it broadcast in this country. In the course of some seventy pages, it repeats the foul lies which the enemy tried to circulate about us over the whole world during the war. Hansen seeks to justify the murderous submarine warfare because of the blockade which was England's "cowardly means of bringing to her knees an adversary she was unable to conquer by fair and manly weapons." Our "hellish designs," we are told in this pamphlet which the Government permit to circulate anywhere our traducer chooses, were based upon an experience as starvation experts—"as millions upon millions of fleshless bodies and bleaching skeletons in India, Ireland, Egypt and the Boer Republics have proved." This sort of thing can be posted to that great Eastern Dependency of ours about which the Prime Minister is so solicitous—even to the extent of breaking his pledged word over Constantinople—with complete impunity. And, as to Ireland, is it not easy to imagine its effect on rebellious fertile soil?

This pamphlet, written, be it said, after the Armistice, declares that "noble-minded Englishmen" (amongst whom Hansen includes E. D. Morel of the Union of Democratic Control) are aware of the wrongs inflicted on the German people by the victorious Allies. But their voices are drowned by "the roars and yells of the great mob of the press-ridden English" who—mark this abominable lie—"pelt the harried and broken civilian prisoners with stones and foul epithets as they make their way through the streets of English towns to embark for Germany." Shades of Ruhleben! Who is this Ferdinand Hansen? He is a German who became an American citizen, and when the States got too hot for him, returned to the Fatherland in 1915. Among the friends, as he tells us, who welcomed him back were the notorious Herman Scheffauer, T. St. John Gaffney, a member of the Executive Committee of the German Irish Society whose object was the encouragement of treason in Ireland, and Rutledge Rutherford, who acted as an enemy agent in Holland during the war. A nice collection of rascals, whom it should even yet be possible to bring to justice!

But this foul effusion of Hansen is surpassed by a blasphemous pamphlet "Jesus at the Peace Conference," written by a certain J. Lepsulis, D.D., last year, and printed in Berlin by the firm of Hans Heenemann. I decline to say more of this abominal product of the press than that Mr. Lloyd George, M. Clemenceau, and President Wilson are represented as engaged in argument with Christ. It might have been thought that no publication issued in this country would have defiled its pages by reproducing the pamphlet. But the official organ of E. D. Morel's Union of Democratic Control—the coincidence is worth noting—recently printed the abomination in full, describing its author, by the way, as a well-known internationalist and "divine."

Nor does the coincidence stop here, for the original pamphlet contains a disgusting cartoon drawn by A. M. Cay, the "artist" of the *Continental Times*—that villainous anti-British paper which was edited by Aubrey Stanhope, assisted by Scheffauer and D. G. Chatterton Hill, who was also a member of the German-Irish Society already referred to. Can there be a shadow of doubt that these scoundrels and renegades who poured forth their poison against us in neutral countries during the war are still in close association, and are now in conspiracy to spit forth their venom in this country? The pity of it is that there are evil men over here only too ready to assist in disseminating the virus of ill-will against the British Throne and Constitution.

If Mr. Lloyd George has any regard for the law-abiding people at home, it is his duty to take rigorous measures to stop this propaganda. Its purpose is to fan the sickly flame of disaffection lighted by the anarchists lurking behind the Labour movement. Once more I call upon the Government to take the necessary steps to stop these poisonous emanations from a press still bitter and hostile.

ANYONE SEEN OUR BOY?

By A. G. Hales.

Since I started my journalistic career I have had many strange commissions, but none stranger than this upon which I am now engaged. When Mr. Bottomley asked me to search Great Britain until I found a man capable of bringing back the Heavyweight Championship of the World to this country and as many other champions as possible, I was promised the whole-hearted support of John Bull, and I am getting it, and the emblems our champions will carry into the roped arena will be the John Bull Belts. As soon as a man has won a John Bull Belt he will be recognised all over the world as a top-notcher, simply because he will have proved beyond all dispute that he is a real fighter, game and clever. We want the public to help us, and we are going to work hand and glove with the whole British public. Our prices of admission to the various contests will be within the reach of the poorest sportsman—for we mean to bar no man by prohibitive prices, simply because we intend this to be a national affair. At present I am working the Midlands. There is not a hole or corner where they do not know why I am there, and when I have finished—which will be in a few days—I return to London to consult with Mr. Bottomley, and a very able organiser who is assisting us, concerning the first eliminating contest, which will take place in London. When that matter is fixed up you will read all about it in John Bull, and you can get ready to witness the finest exhibition of grit and quality that old London has ever known. Then I shall proceed to some other quarter and look for more talent, for we are going to sweep Britain until we find men good enough and game enough to reverse the decisions of the Boxing Council which met recently in Paris and took away from us every championship bar that held by little Jimmy Wilde. Think of it. The World's Boxing Council has published broadcast that America and France hold *all* the championships bar one. Does it not make you feel hot in the collar? It made Mr. Bottomley and myself hot enough to start this crusade, and we are going to carry it on until we tame the insolence of these foreigners and humble their pride in the dust. Dempsey, Carpentier, Fulton may be good men; but, after all, they are only men, and they can be beaten in fair fight. Ledoux is a smart little chap, but I saw grand old Jim Driscoll make him look cheap as mud for fourteen rounds until age wore him out. The Jim Driscoll breed is here still—come on, you little men in the pride of your youth; come at every weight! Already I have a lot of middle weights, welters and light weights, but I want many more. We are out for the honour of the Old Land, and mean to make London ring again with our glory. Lads of England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, we want you all—there is big money waiting for the winners, and there is fame!

I've found one middle-weight as game as Tom Sayers. He's got a lot to learn; but he's bull and tiger grit and he won't disgrace the Black Country. I've found some big welters also who will make you lads o' London fight your hardest—soldiers, sailors, tinkers and blacksmiths, and more than one clerk. Is there a world-beater amongst them? I can't tell you, but you shall judge when you see them box for the John Bull Belts. Remember this—even if you do not happen to be quite good enough for World Championship honours in any class, if you are a game good fighter you will be brought into the lime-light, and will surely get matches that will bring you in more money than you could ever hope to earn in any other profession. This is not a pie with only one plum in it; it is full of fruit. The John Bull Belts are going to mark a new era in boxing. Already an American promoter has written endeavouring to fix up a match in London for John Bull's champions. Rally to the old flag, lads; we want you!

RECORD OPPORTUNITIES in 1920

INCOMES TREBLED AND QUADRUPLED.

Brilliant Prospects for Men and Women with Trained Minds

DESPITE the fall in the exchanges and the continual rise in prices, 1920, in the opinion of leading business authorities, will be a year of great opportunities for men and women with trained and efficient minds.

"Our means of production," says the famous captain of industry, Sir Robert Hadfield, "are far ahead of the conditions of 1913. We are to-day in a position to produce wealth at a very much greater rate . . . than was the case before the war. . . **We are in a position to pay for the war and at the same time raise the entire standard of living . . . Britain is now facing an opportunity for the greatest prosperity in her history.**"

This position has created a tremendous demand for efficient men and women. Every business, every industry, is looking out for men and women with keen, trained minds. In every business, profession and industry men and women are trebling and quadrupling their incomes and securing promotion over the heads of sometimes hundreds of others, as the result of scientifically training their minds.

You can read about these astonishing facts for yourself by writing to-day for the free book mentioned below. It will tell you all about the remarkable increases in income-earning capacity brought about by a short course of Pelmanism. The New Pelman Course is now ready. It has been completely revised and enlarged, and includes all the latest discoveries in Psychology and Mental Efficiency. Apply to-day for the book describing the new Course in detail. It will be posted you by return, gratis and post free, on sending the coupon printed below, or a postcard, to the Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1 (or call at the Institute). Get this book to-day, and see how by means of Pelmanism you can make 1920 the most prosperous year of your life.

THREE RISES IN 5 WEEKS.
REMARKABLE LETTERS.

Remarkable letters are being received daily by the Pelman Institute from men and women who have achieved success by means of Pelmanism—letters which every reader who wants to "get on" should read.

These letters come from all classes of the community.
—from Chiefs of Industry.
—from Professional Leaders.
—from workers by hand and brain in every sphere and of every grade,

some speaking of intellectual benefits gained, of minds broadened and interests awakened, others relating to the purely material facts of incomes increased, promotion secured, and "greater business done," but all, without exception, testifying to the enormous increase in **efficiency,** in the power of **getting things done,** and **doing things well** brought about by a short course of scientific mental training.

BRANCH MANAGER'S TRIBUTE.

The following report is from a Branch Manager. It speaks for itself.

He left the Army holding the rank of Sergeant. Having studied Pelmanism whilst in the Army and having by this means increased his efficiency he was re-engaged by his old firm "as first hand" at double wages.

Whilst holding this position his increased capabilities became so apparent that he was **"given a rise" that very week.**

Four weeks later he was made Branch Manager **"with a further substantial rise."**

Thus in a period of five weeks this Pelmanist secured three increases in salary—not at all a bad return for the small sum expended in taking the Pelman Course.

PROMOTION BY MERIT.

There are some people in business who despair of getting on because "there are so many people in front of them."

It is not so with the Pelmanist.

Under present-day conditions the bright, sharp, intelligent man or woman—the man or woman who trains on Pelman lines—gets picked out for promotion even from a subordinate position and is placed over the heads of those who, although senior in point of age or service, have not trained their minds by means of Pelmanism.

This was the experience (and it has been the experience of hundreds) of "Pelmanist S20016," who writes:—

"A few weeks ago I was promoted over a hundred colleagues to a higher position in responsibility."

RISE OF £200 A YEAR.

Pelmanism, writes an electrical engineer, is "of the greatest benefit to me in my work."

"It has given me," he adds, "that feeling of self-confidence necessary to carry through new and untried schemes."

He goes on to say:—

"I have benefited very greatly on the financial side, having just recently received a rise in salary of £200 a year, bringing me up to £500, a figure undreamt of a year or so ago. I consider that the Pelman Course is, from the standpoint of money alone, a most profitable investment, and from the intellectual standpoint a veritable resurrection of the mind."

INCOME MORE THAN TREBLED.

It has sometimes been said, and thought, by clerks that they belong to an overcrowded profession, that their expenses are considerable, their remuneration small, and their prospects few.

This may be true of the clerk who has not profited by the great discoveries in mental science embodied in the New (1920) Pelman Course.

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"I am deeply indebted to the Pelman Institute for the good they have done me, as, since taking up the Course, I have more than trebled my income, which is due solely to your teaching."

Similar letters could be quoted by the hundred. They come from members of every known profession, business, and occupation in the world. Members of Parliament, Soldiers and Sailors, Directors, Merchants, Manufacturers, Managers, Bankers, Shopkeepers, Grocers, Tailors, Drapers, Engineers, Artisans, Mechanics, Clerks, Journalists, Typists, men and women of every class, every age, and every type testify to the enormous assistance Pelmanism has been to them. Read their letters and the other evidence which will be sent you free on application to-day. Cut out the coupon and send it, or a postcard, to the Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1 (or call at the Institute). All the information you require will be sent you by return free.

THE NEW PELMAN COURSE

Awaited now for many months with great expectation the New Pelman Course is now ready.

During the War Years Pelmanism did marvellous service.

But with the ending of the war and the activities of men and women taking on a new direction it was felt that Pelmanism ought to be revised in order that its benefits should be used to the fullest possible advantage in the Productive work of Peace.

Many new and valuable discoveries have been made in the last five years in the science of Psychology, and it was felt imperative that the results of these discoveries should be embodied in the Course.

It was therefore decided to Re-Pelmanise the Pelman Course, and upon this work of revision and adaptation the specialists of the Advisory Board of the Pelman Institute have been engaged.

The result of their efforts is the New (1920) Pelman Course, for which readers can now enrol on special terms.

The New Pelman Course is as great an advance upon the old Pelman Course as the latter was upon its predecessors, and remarkable as were the results secured by the practice of Pelmanism in the past, it is certain that these results will be greatly exceeded by those who enrol for the 1920 Course.

The Course consists of twelve lessons, which are fully described in "Mind and Memory," a copy of which will be sent gratis and post free to every reader who applies for it to-day.

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The New Pelman Course develops just those qualities most needed for success.

It banishes Mental-Tiredness, Timidity, Carelessness, Lack of Initiative, Mental Flurry, Want of Self-Confidence, Shyness, and Forgetfulness, and develops

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—**Organising Power.**
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—**Salesmanship.**
—**Self-Confidence.**
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—**Resourcefulness.**
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and the other qualities which make up an alert and efficient mind.

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MAKING STRIDES.

(Following up the Wrekin victory, an Independent candidate is standing for Stockport.)

He may be "kicking up a dust"
That fills his rivals with disgust;

But when John enters for a race,
You bet he's going to make the pace!

THE "HOUSE" AS THE HOME

"ALL HOPE ABANDON WHO WOULD ENTER HERE."

Though it was recently well puffed in the newspapers that the St. Pancras Guardians had unanimously decided to offer housing accommodation in the local Workhouse at 10s. a week "to married persons with families ejected from their homes in the parish and unable to find other apartments," the Board have evidently been slightly misunderstood. "Dear Sir or Madam," wrote Mr. J. E. P. Hall, their Clerk, in what is obviously a stereotyped letter, to the mother of two children and wife of an ex-soldier, "With reference to your application for rooms at the House of this parish, King's Road, I am directed by the Guardians to inform you that they regret they are unable to let you any rooms, as the accommodation at their disposal is very limited, and in no case can arrangements be made for the accommodation of children." Another little woman was at the Town Hall, Hammersmith, referred to the Workhouse Infirmary, where, she states, someone in authority told her she could not be put up unless she came as a destitute person; that her two children would be taken from her, and that her husband would have to do the ordinary work a destitute person has to do in a workhouse.

It is incredible that the official would act beyond instructions. Our object is simply to straighten out the position for those who thought they saw in the reported action of Boards of Guardians here and there relief from their housing difficulties. The pauper touch, as reported at Hammersmith, is the real Bumble touch—insulting, unsympathetic, and unnecessary; and if it does in fact represent the policy of the Guardians, it is up to them to make it publicly clear.

SNAIL-PACED TRUSTEES.

EXTRAORDINARY AFTERMATH OF THE "LIBERATOR" WRECK.

Our older readers will recall the consternation aroused some 25 years ago by the "Liberator" Building Society smash—when it was found that, through the defalcations of the late Mr. Jabez Balfour and his associates, thousands of British families were involved in hopeless ruin. So acute was the crisis that the Government lent its aid towards the establishment of the United Realisation Company, Ltd., a concern formed with the idea of salving something from the wreckage of the Liberator group, and effecting a distribution of its remaining assets upon equitable terms. It will be a surprise to many people to learn that this Company is still in existence, with offices at 21, Ironmonger Lane, E.C.; its operations during the last quarter of a century being "wrapt in mystery." Although the latest available balance-sheet shows the property involved to be worth round about £1,000,000, it does not appear that any effective distributions among the surviving Liberator victims has yet been made.

Unless the Directors soon get a move on, the bulk of the qualified recipients will "by effluxion of time" have passed beyond the reach of aid. We should welcome enlightenment as to the principles upon which the United Realisation Company are discharging the trust vested in them. As trustees for a number of elderly people, most of them in sadly reduced circumstances, we should have considered it the plain duty of the Company, urgent if belated, to sell out their holdings of house property at the present heavy prices, distribute the proceeds in cash, and finally wind up the business. What are the obstacles to this simple and straightforward procedure? Surely it cannot be that someone would lose his job?

INFANT HUNS MADE WELCOME.

YET NO HOME FOR ORPHANS OF BRITISH WAR HEROES.

The Hove War Pensions Committee, we are told, are at their wits' ends to provide suitably for 22 orphan children of Service men for whose welfare they are responsible. Very properly, the Ministry of Pensions declines to allow the little people to be herded into orphanages or similar institutions, its stipulation being that they should be boarded out with suitable foster-parents; but the good citizens of Hove are a little slow in coming forward. These orphaned mites are the sons and daughters of British soldiers and sailors; if they were little Huns it would be far simpler. They might then be packed off to Bradford, where they would be received with open arms by a municipality that has always been prominent in the recognition of the hidden virtues of the German race.

Bradford now proposes to receive into its hospitable bosom 1,000 children of school age from "the famine areas of Central Europe," the bulk of whom will, it is understood, be drawn from the lands of our late enemies. It is a monstrous and incredible proposition. For one thing, it passes our comprehension that the medical authorities of the city should have sanctioned a scheme so fraught with the risk of infection from the plague-stricken areas of the Continent. The very people who have been depicting in lurid colours this epidemic of disease are those who are foremost in the effort to bring possibly infected children over here! Morally, the proposal is equally detestable. Fancy British citizens being expected to pet and pamper the offspring of our former foes, while at the same time the orphans of our own gallant war heroes have no place to call home in the land for which their fathers fought and died.

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Another Doctor writes:—"I wish my daughter, who is suffering from Anæmia, to take a course of Hall's Wine."

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Other sweetmeats have risen enormously in price, but, despite the heavy increases in the cost of pure cane sugar and other ingredients, WRIGLEY'S Chewing Gums are still obtainable at the popular price of 3d. per Sealed Packet of long-lasting sweetness and goodness.

Test the wonderful value of either one or all of Wrigley's 3 Greatest of all Sweetmeat values to-day.

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IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

MR. H. H. ASQUITH, M.P.

'Ow do, sir, 'ow do! Glad to see you back merry an' bright, with your Paisley shawl 'ung round yer shoulders. It's flatterin' of yer to come an' see me so soon arter your triumphal return to town. If you remember, w'en you was 'ere larst I wished you luck, an' you've 'ad it. There ain't any doubt but wot the best man won. Serious-minded electors 'aven't got no use for Labour members, not jest yet. They've gotter show a less revolutionary spirit before the country'll feel safe in 'andin' the Guv'ment over to 'em. An' we're jest about fed up with Co-alitioners with their return tickets to 'eadquarters. There's a good deal in your perlitical parst as I don't agree with, an' I'm not shore as I approve of your policy, lock, stock an' barrel. But I knows you'll be a valuable addition to the 'Ouse, if it's on'y to ginger up the Guv'ment. A few mien like you is necessary at Westminster. Lloy' George, 'avin' 'ad nobody of 'is own weight to meet, 'as 'ad things a bit too much 'is own way. And that, as we all know, is good for nobody.

* * *

Now we look to you to force the Guv'ment to git a move on; and I dessay thet any action you may take wot's likely to restore the ole country to somethink like its pre-wore prosperity, and to git back for us some o' the liberty wot thet durned ole 'ag "Dora" 'as pinched from us, will be backed up by the Independent Business Party, Mr. Bottomley an' Mr. Palmer. But, I warn yer, if yo're goin' to re-start the ole Radical Party cries an' oppose any sensible measure introjooced by the Guv'ment simply becos' the Guv'ment *are* introjooced it, then you won't 'ave much 'elp from the gents I've mentioned.

* * *

Wot we looks to you for spesh'lly is to force the Guv'ment to deal with the dirty profiteer in the way 'e deserves; to sweep away all these silly an' irritatin' restrictions under "Dora" wot are mákin' the Man in the Street madder an' madder every day; an' to warn the pussy-footers in the 'Ouse thet if they tinker any longer with the workin' man's beer an' the middle-clarss bloke's w'isky, they'll be monkeying abart with the roots of the Empire. I dessay your return to the Commons 'll put a few noses outer joint. Your election an' the Wrekin result jest about put the kybosh on the Coalition. An' it's their own fault. Funny thing, but the Guv'ment don't seem to tumble wot a bitter feelin' there is in the country. They seem to live with their bloomin' 'eads in a bag. They don't seem to 'ave nobbled to the fack thet, fur one thing, there's thousands o' wimmin voters to-day wot 'ave the spendin' of the 'ousekeepin' money. So long as we 'ave these 'ere 'igh prices, an' profiteerin' in necessaries o' life goes on so shockin', they won't vote for a Guv'ment wot allows a quid to buy on'y eight bobs' worth, an' makes no effort wot they can see to bring the cost o' livin' down. It's jest as well fur you to realize thet, too, Mister Asquith.

* * *

Don't you kid yourself thet all the fourteen thousand odd votes you polled was cast for *you*. They wasn't. They was cast agin the Guv'ment and agin advanced Labour, both of w'ich the ordinary voter is gittin' a bit scared of. I'll guarantee thet if a Bottomley or a Palmer 'ad bin standin' in your place, the result would 'ave bin very much the same. Not thet I'm sayin' you ain't worth all the support you got, but I don't want you to puff yourself up with the idea thet it was you yourself on'y wot won the fight. It went some way towards it, but not *all* the way.

* * *

So now we looks to you, Mister, to shake 'em up at Westminster. The Guv'ment ain't goin' to 'ave too easy a time the nex' few weeks. Somethinks gotter be done quick to satisfy the people, else Lloy' George'll find some bloomin' lions in the path, an' not tame ones, neether! . . . Well, sir, 'ow's thet fur a trim? . . . . Thank you very much, I'm shore. . . . Goo' day, sir, an' good luck.

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

"Belfast Telegraph":—"Miss —— had a red nose in her black and white hat."

British Hay Traders' Association (Monthly Circular):—"A representation of a gold watch . . . was presented by the Chairman to Mr. ——."

"Sydenham and Penge Gazette" (advertisement):—"Mr. —— receives or visits pups for Pianoforte Lessons."

"Daily Dispatch":—"Mr. Roberts, I believe, has persisted in resigning his office of Fool Minister, mainly because his position has been made uncomfortable."

"Dalton's Weekly Advertiser" (advertisement):—"Cottage, fur., at Bonchurch. . . . No linen or blankets. Ideal for honeymoons."

"Manchester Guardian" (advertisement):—"I, Mrs. —— would like to know the whereabouts of my Father the late Charles ——."

"Morning Post" (advertisement):—"Art in Washing—with economy. Ladies desiring personal attention are invited to apply to ——."

"Essex County Standard" (advertisement):—"Detached house . . . for sale . . . let to a yearly tenant expiring Christmas."

"Home Companion":—"He felt in his neck the chill, damp breath from Kitty's dead lips."

"North Eastern Daily Gazette":—"The King and Queen visited the *Daily Mail* Ideal Homes Exhibition at Olympia to-day. The proceedings were formal, three additional charges of assault and robbery have been made against the male prisoners."

"Gloucester Citizen":—"Rugby Match in France. A Rugby match at Cologne . . . resulted in a British victory."

"Lincoln Leader and County Advertiser":—"As statesmen go, he is a young man. He (Mr. Walter Runciman) is just under 5."

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

The plain man sees but little sense
In Auckland's speech in Coats' defence.

Her ladyship would better suit,
If she thought less of Pussyfoot.

The Premier looks like getting thick
With the abhorrent Bolshevik.

Experts meteorological
Find fogs in Feb. illogical.

Our Jack Tars cross the Golden Horn
The Turk unspeakable to warn.

Some folks, no doubt, will think it silly
For Lloyd George to coufer with Smillie.

Mad housewives soon will put the fear
Of Hell into the profiteer!

Much interest it did arouse
When A. met Palmer in the House.

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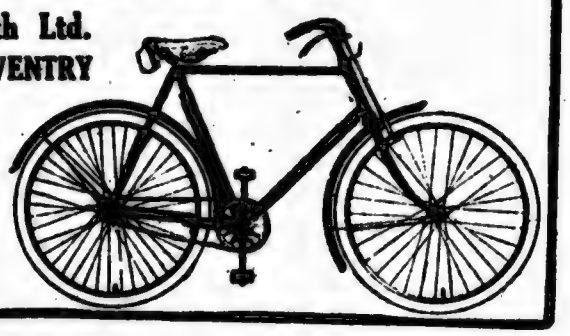

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A pennyworth of Quaker Oats yields eight times as much energy value as the pennyworth of steak. The cost of buying energy matter in most other foods is even dearer: nineteen times dearer in the case of eggs and sixteen times dearer in the case of plaice.

Of course we do not suggest that you live on Quaker Oats only. But oats are the greatest all-round food that grows—nearly an ideal food—and Quaker Oats purity and flavour are assured by the sealed packet.

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And Gibbs Dentifrice will *prove* a "treasure trove," assuring them the inestimable benefits of sound teeth during childhood and throughout the after years. The bubbly foam works into every tiny interstice and tooth crevice, arresting decay, preserving the enamel and keeping the gums and mouth sweet and healthy.

Children, too, find Gibbs Dentifrice easy to use. There is nothing to spill or squeeze out, to soil the clothes or hands. One rub of the tooth brush on the solid cake gives them just as much dentifrice as they need to use. No waste, no trouble.

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MY NEXT MOV

Great Days Ahead!—The New "Independent" Pa

By THE

REMARKING not long ago upon Mr. Lloyd George's oratorical triumphs in the opening days of the present Session, I ventured to exclaim, parenthetically, "If only Asquith had been there to reply!" And now that the chief of our Elder Statesmen has made his reappearance, I am expecting new developments of a highly significant, if not indeed of a startling, nature. I make no secret of the fact that the triumph of the ex-Premier at Paisley is to me a welcome event, ensuring as it does that for the future the policy and procedure of the Coalition will be subjected from day to day to acute and intelligent criticism by an Opposition leader trained in the habits of Parliament and practised beyond most of his contemporaries in the ritual of debate. I do not shut my eyes to Mr. Asquith's faults, which are patent to the friendliest observer; nor am I forgetting that at the crisis of the war his nerve proved unequal to an occasion incomparable in its stern demands upon the qualities of statesmen. But the one thing needful at the moment is to raise the tone of Parliament—to recall it to a sense of its high vocation as the supreme expression of the national will; to restore its feet to the strait and narrow path of patriotic duty. The true friends of the Government, as of the nation, are not the slavish flatterers who will cheer any ineptitude and swallow any solecism so long as it falls from the lips of a Minister of the Crown—but those rather who, while indulging in no mere factious opposition, will scorn to applaud a falsehood or to approve a policy divorced from sound principle. From their respective standpoints, and in the measure of their opportunities, the Member for Paisley and my welcome colleague the Member for The Wrekin Division will, I am convinced, offer to the Government not a blind opposition nor uncritical support, but intelligent and helpful criticism—looking over the heads of Ministers to the great mass of law-abiding citizens who claim the proud title of the People of Britain. Regarded from the personal standpoint, the situation is one of unrivalled fascination. With the re-entry of Mr. Asquith the drama of politics takes on a new interest, and the fortunes of the rival political groups are once more the subject of active speculation. Face to face with his old leader, and with his whole political future at stake, the Little Man from Wales will be on his mettle as never before; and unless I am mistaken in his character, he will rise to the occasion in a way that may surprise his more tepid admirers. With these two doughty champions in the ring, Parliamentary contests will be worth watching; no mean debater, once his Celtic fervour is aroused, the Prime Minister will at length have found a foeman worthy of his steel. Indeed, I look forward to an era of debate not unworthy to be compared with the Homeric days when Disraeli and Gladstone divided the stage, winning from their rival supporters plaudits that have hardly yet ceased to echo around the old walls of St. Stephen's.

Great Days Ahead.

Yes, I believe there are great days ahead. And as long as the deep interests of the nation are not sacrificed—as long as real issues are at stake, and the mere interest of the "game" is subordinated to the vital business of government—I confess that I rather look forward to the spectacle of the Premier at bay. Moreover, great as is my admiration for Mr. Asquith's Parliamentary abilities, I am not yet prepared to lay odds against the Little Welshman, in whose wonderful personality I suspect the existence of still latent powers. People who talk as though, since Paisley's choice was known, it was all over with the Coalition, and Mr. Asquith had only to make his bow to the Speaker to succeed to the moral leadership of the House of Commons, are reckoning without their host, and betraying a serious lack of political judgment. Say what you will, Mr. Lloyd George is a fighter who can generally be backed against heavy odds; the most signal triumphs of his career have been won in contests that appeared unequal, and for that very reason challenged his genius to unexampled efforts. I am not sure that, in the long run, the Coalition will look back upon the Paisley election as an unmitigated catastrophe. Mr. Asquith has a great opportunity; yes, and so has the Prime Minister. If he will only take the advice I gave him a few weeks ago—get rid of the "duds" in his Ministry, and concentrate upon those items of his programme that are of vital national importance—I believe he may yet hold his own in Parliament and win back the confidence of the nation that was his in unstinted measure in the early days of the Armistice. After all, as I have hinted, Mr. Asquith starts again with the heavy handicap of a war record that must always incur some amount of censure as contrasted with that of his brilliant and resourceful successor. There are some events the British public will never forget. But we are a forgiving people, and during the transition period of Party politics we should like to see the Parliamentary game played by the best men. And that is why we want Asquith back. Then we feel that in the House things will be different. For the future, I may say in passing, there will be an ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer—not the least successful one of recent years, as political Chancellors of the Exchequer go—upon the Front Opposition Bench, and the course of Government finance will henceforth be more closely scrutinised. To put it bluntly, it will pay Austen to be careful. And I can think of other cases in which, if the Liberal leader were really to "set about" certain Coalition Ministers, meaning to hurt them, I, as a sensitive man, should have to leave the House rather than gaze upon the harrowing scene. However, let me say this quite seriously: As often as Mr. Asquith's voice is raised in protest against the profligate finance of the Government—against waste and incompetence, against reckless borrowing and the pernicious inflation of our already swollen currency—he shall have my support and that of this journal, tendered from a sense of loyal duty to the taxpayers who are the solid backbone of this great nation. That is what I mean by Independence. If I had been prepared to swallow any pot of broth from the Coalition kitchen, I should have said so when I contested South Hackney; but I gave no such pledge, preferring to do without the precious "coupon," and to keep a free hand for use in emergencies.

The Independent Party.

So with Mr. Charles Palmer in The Wrekin Division; he, like myself, sits in the House of Commons as the free representative of a great constituency, to speak and vote according to his conscience on the questions of the day as they come up for discussion. We two at present form the nucleus of what, for want of a better term, I have called the Independent Party. And, make no mistake about it, this is destined to grow—and rapidly, too—until it becomes an effective force in the Division Lobbies. Noting this statement, the Fleet Street organs of the baser sort will no doubt lift up their noses in disdain, as they did when we entered The Wrekin contest, in which one facile scribe, whose name ought to have been Ananias, had the hardihood to declare—knowing all the while that he was lying—that "the chances of the Independent Candidate were not seriously regarded." But never mind the Lilliputian creatures; we are getting on with the business, and by the time these lines are in print an Independent Candidate, standing on the JOHN BULL platform—a "Bottomleyite," if you like—will have made his appearance at Stockport. Captain Albert Kindell, the gentleman I have persuaded to come forward to carry the colours that romped home in The Wrekin, is not in the ordinary sense of the term a "politician"—that is to say, he has not been hanging about the purlieus of Westminster for years, carpet-bag in hand, ready to fight any forlorn hope that benevolent Whips might select for him. On the contrary, he is a hard-headed man of business—albeit, with a splendid war record—whose aim it will be, if elected, to bring to bear upon every political question the practical common-sense principles that have guided his commercial pursuits. I cannot say for certain, but I do not suppose he could quote extensively from memory from the pages of Adam Smith or John Stuart Mill—or that, to go back a little further, he is versed in the philosophy of Plato or the logic of Aristotle; but he owns an intimate acquaintance with the complex problems of our modern life—especially with the bread-and-butter

...E—AND AFTER.

...ty—Watch Lord "Bob"—Asquith's Opportunity.

...EDITOR.

questions that make up the larger portion of present-day politics. And these are the men we want. I read somewhere not long ago that Mr. Asquith had been beguiling his unaccustomed leisure with the translation of Mr. Kipling's "Barrack-Room Ballads" into classical Greek; but it is certainly not on account of his prowess in dead languages that I welcome the right hon. gentleman's return to public life. On the contrary, I hope he will give the old Greeks and Romans a rest for a bit now he is back at Westminster, and apply his mind to the solution of one or two problems from whose insistent pressure Socrates, Euripides and the rest of them were blissfully shielded. As, for instance, how can we squeeze a bit of that promised Indemnity out of the crafty Hun?—How to curb the greed of the Profiteer? and, How to balance the Budget without breaking the back of the taxpayer? These burning problems—and the housing shortage, the vicious circle of wages and prices, the relief of taxation, the practical application of the Peace Treaty—are the main burdens of the Independent programme which, I promise the Coalition manager, will be put forward at Stockport with no less vigour than in The Wrekin. Once again, we are out to win.

"Shamming Dead."

My motto in politics at the moment is, "Back to Realities." We have had enough of airy-fairy make-believe, taking no account of the nation's stern necessities, and ignoring the blood-red tragedy whose dull ache still lingers round the hearts of this gallant people. Happily there are not wanting signs that the era of pretence, of artificiality, of falsity, is nearing its end; that a deep underlying unity of purpose is taking the place of a sham uniformity calculated only to deceive. People sometimes have expressed surprise that—holding the views I do, and having always predicted the ultimate break-up of the two-Party system—I did not welcome the Coalition with open arms as a concession to the very principles I had so long advocated. My reasons are not far to seek. If the Coalition had really spelt the death of the old Party system, with its shams and insincerities, its deceit and trickery, I would have attended the funeral in a wedding garment, and whistled with glee throughout the obsequies; but I knew well enough from the beginning that the crafty old impostor was only "shamming dead." And now everyone knows it. It's the same old game, under slightly amended rules, played very largely up the backstairs in Downing Street instead of in the light of day at Westminster. The nation has no further use for secret compacts and private "understandings" entered into behind its back, merely to keep in power and office a top-heavy political combination, creaking at every joint, and bursting with the strain of hidden faction. I do not pretend to know exactly what is going to happen in the near future; but I anticipate that, under Mr. Asquith's inspiration, there may be a considerable re-grouping of Parties corresponding to tendencies that have long been evident to practical observers. Independent Liberalism is not quite dead in the country, and the make-believe that it is, will not long survive the Paisley election.

Political Realities.

No doubt some of the Coalition Liberals—whose electoral prospects are not rosy—will be attracted by the magnetic influence that will now issue from the Front Opposition Bench; and with them, to add to the strength of the regular Opposition, may go the small section of Unionist rebels, headed by Lord "Bob" Cecil, who has never regarded the Unionist Leadership of Mr. Bonar Law with anything but cold and haughty disdain. These movements—and I foresee others of lesser moment—would all be in the direction of what I have called "political realities," away from the sham and pretence that keep men of divergent views "united" under a single leader, back to the bed-rock basis of principles as opposed to mere expediency, which the genius of the Welsh Wizard has failed to undermine. And, side by side with these developments, I foresee the steady growth of the real Independent elements—reinforced, as I believe they will be, at repeated by-elections, and encouraging by their example the free expression of individual opinion in the great Council of the Nation. Grave as is the outlook in many directions, I contend that in some notable respects there is a more virile spirit in public life and inside the walls of Parliament to-day than before the war. True, the Coalition preserves intact the old Party machinery—its pledges and excuses and coupons—the whole musty apparatus of modern-day government; but, nevertheless we are advancing with rapid strides. The miracle of The Wrekin—for it was little less—would scarcely have been possible in the old days when if a candidate was neither "Buff" nor "Blue"—with a rare "look-in" for Labour—he might as well relinquish all hope of a Parliamentary career. Moreover, the prospect of a variegated phalanx to the left of the Speaker—some of them looking to Mr. Asquith for leadership, others to Mr. Adamson, still others to neither of these gentlemen—tends strongly in the direction of "Independence" as the governing factor in our political life.

Conscience—Not Whips.

This, I believe, is the keynote of the future: that, more and more, Parliament will tend to reflect the diversity of views which must ever be characteristic of a free people. It is my sober conviction that before very long the Party system as we used to know it, will be in active dissolution. When that day comes, I shall not pretend to weep; in my own constituency I killed the Party system years ago, and if any gentleman, with a label from either Caucus, thinks he can revive "Liberalism" or "Conservatism" or "Labourism," as such, in South Hackney, he is welcome to try—and good luck to him! And this is the new tendency of things. We are making rapidly for a state of affairs under which a Member of Parliament, challenged for his vote on some vital question, will stay not to consult the "Whips," but merely to consult his Conscience. When that day comes, we who sit at Westminster will not be "Liberals" or "Tories" or "Labourities"—not Coalitionists or Lloyd-Georgeites. "Wee-Frees" or "Nationalists"—but just plain Britishers, each with a man's job to tackle and a patriot's conscience to keep clean. We may then have to get rid of the silly convention by which a Government must resign office on the defeat on what is called a "first-class measure," and is generally a third-rate legislative abortion: but that will not matter much—for in that day Ministers will be the servants of Parliament, and not, as now, its truculent overseers. Wrekin led the way; let Stockport follow—for as the old slogan runs, "What Lancashire thinks to-day, England will think to-morrow."

My Next Move.

What, then, in the language of the Lobby, is to be my next move? Well, it is to fight Stockport for all I am worth. I have a good, clean candidate with, as I have said, a fine war record—a level-headed man of affairs, to whom the Party cries mean nothing, but who has very definite views as to the lines upon which this Old Country can be rebuilt, after all the ravages of war. I shall throw myself into the contest with the same zeal and vigour as I did in the case of The Wrekin; and although it is early days to talk of results, I shall enter upon the fight in a spirit of confidence. For I am sure the Man-in-the-Street—and in the factory—is sick and tired of the professional politician; and I am by no means dismayed at the announcement that the probable Labour candidate may be my noble friend Sir Leo Chiozza Money—the Blue-Book King! If my candidate and I don't know more about the working classes and the problems of Labour than this theoretical Political Economist, I'll eat my hat. Then there is talk of an Independent Liberal—and I suppose we shall have a Coalition nominee—unless, indeed, the Coalition is retiring from the By-election business. Well, let 'em all come! I pin my faith to the hard common sense of Lancashire—and next week I hope to be in a position to report that the flames which Mr. Palmer kindled at Wrekin Mr. Kindell is kindling at Stockport.

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Conditions.

1. Recipes may be for soups, sauces; vegetable, fish or meat dishes; puddings, sweets; breads, biscuits, scones or cakes.

2. Recipes need not be elaborate but must be original.

3. You may send in as many recipes as you like.

4. Cost of preparation must be stated. (In estimating cost, count only the amount actually used. Example: if you use half a tin of Libby's Milk count only half the cost of the whole tin—same with other ingredients.)

5. The *whole label* from a tin of Libby's Evaporated Milk must accompany each recipe.

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The decision of judges to be final.

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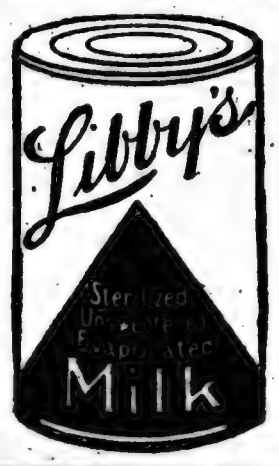

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Letters for this page must relate to public as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," page 22.

Territorials and Income Tax.

Men enlisting in the new Territorial Force are undertaking obligations of a considerable nature, and the authorities should offer commensurate terms. If all members of this force were *exempt* from income tax, the concession would not mean much loss financially, and would be a real inducement to join.—ARTHUR J. CROXFORD, Greek Street, Liverpool.

"Fearing Father's Footsteps."

The woman of to-day imagines she is equal to many tasks that men are capable of performing. But there is one great task she should accomplish—one which begins at home: the task of being able to control the children instead of uttering that everlasting threat "Wait till your father comes"! It is only natural that the children get to fear father's footsteps if he is forced to correct them for every little item!—B. DILKE, Poplar Road, Sparkhill.

Unjust Union Rules.

When there is so much unrest, caused by unemployment and high cost of living—which is aggravated by the food-rot at the docks—is it not possible for the State to prevent certain Labour Unions victimising unemployed discharged soldiers? I refer to the Dock Labourers' Union, who have not only raised the entrance fee from 5s. to £5 0s. 4d., but stipulate that the applicant *must be the son of a docker*, and must prove same, by showing his father's contribution card, before being placed on the roll.—E. LITTLEWOOD, Sandstone Road, Liverpool.

Scientists and Synthetic Cotton.

The world's consumption of cotton has not come within sight of its limits. If the supply is increased the potential consumption will grow just as fast. These facts only point to the great advantage that would accrue to England if a substitute for cotton were discovered. Anyone who could invent artificial cotton would become rich beyond dreams. Surely, the brains that beat the submarine peril, the gas of the Huns, and the many other death-dealing implements of war, will rise to this great effort. Now then, inventors!—JAMES QUINN, Clegg Street, East Burnley.

The Silver Shortage.

Now that the Government have published their plans to substitute a new silver coinage containing 50 per cent. alloy, the least they can do is to take steps to rectify this deplorable blunder. Already people have commenced to hoard their silver, a fact proved by the number of shopkeepers and publicans who, since the Government's intention was made public, have been requested to change paper money in respect of trivial purchases. If no action is taken we can anticipate a shortage of silver currency, consequent dislocation of business, and being forced to issue paper for very small amounts.—WM. E. WILSON, Rossett Road, Great Crosby, Liverpool.

Housing Bonds.

The Government have now acknowledged their inability to provide the enormous sums necessary for housing, and are insisting on the local authorities raising their own funds, even if it means paying excessive interest. Yet the money could be found at once by House Bonds—carrying, say, 2½ per cent. interest, ½ per cent. for expenses and 2 per cent. to a Prize Fund—winners to be presented with a freehold house bearing a small mortgage. The local authorities would get the capital at a reasonable interest, the country would be relieved of all loss, and—the Chancellor of the Exchequer might find an excuse for revising his decision on Premium Bonds!—JAMES PLUCKNETT, St. Vincent Street, Edinburgh,

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. Eric James Wyatt.

House Exchange.

I propose that a short Bill be passed through Parliament to enable people to register at their Labour Bureau or other suitable centre for an exchange of residence to any desired part, landlords to be compelled to accept the transfer of tenants. This scheme would so lessen passenger traffic that we should hear no more about increased fares, and would effect economy in many directions.—F. W. HUGGINS, Queen's Road, Walthamstow.

Harbour Lights.

The Board of Trade or Harbour Authorities should immediately institute a proper and up-to-date system of lighting and pier-head signals in all small harbours. Large harbours have them, so why not the small fishing ones? Most of the small harbours are like Buckie, where the last disaster was, depending on gas lamps that are liable to be extinguished in a storm. Electric lights should be fixed up. The cost of a small gas or oil engine and generator would be nothing compared with the fishermen's lives it would save.—JAMES LEISHMAN, Comely Park, Polmont.

"Smokers—Strike!"

Considering their latest balance-sheet, the recent increase of the Imperial Tobacco Company's prices proclaims them sheer profiteers. As a large number of smokers belong to a Trade Union or Club, I suggest that all the Secretaries of these concerns should call a special meeting and ask their members who smoke to agree not to purchase tobacco, in any form whatever, for a period of one month. This would soon force the prices down. It is asking a great deal for a man to give up his smoke (I am a great smoker myself) but it would be worth it in the end.—ERIC JAMES WYATT, Calabria Road, Highbury.

The Fixed Bonus.

Production is hindered by the system of fixed bonus to pieceworkers, whereby the more articles a man makes the less he gets for them. Thus: A and B are making the same things at £1 per doz., plus 26s. 6d. bonus. A makes two dozen a week, getting a little over 2s. 9d. each article; B makes 1½ dozen and gets nearly 3s. 2d. each. Do employers honestly think that is the way to encourage a man to do his utmost? If they paid a sliding scale of bonus we should soon see a big jump in production.—B. SULLIVAN, Alvechurch, nr. Birmingham.

Breeding Bolshevism.

The greatest danger in this country to-day is the spreading of Bolshevik principles; and the Government themselves are assisting in this. New impositions are placed on the people every day—increases in the prices of the necessaries of life, and grossly irritating revelations as the publication of Company balance sheets showing enormous profits, foreigners landing in the country, Germans and Austrians lately released from internment re-opening businesses at the expense of our discharged and disabled heroes, etc. The Government *must be firm* with those pacifists who did their very damnedest to cause us to lose the war and now pose as Trade Union representatives. We, the masses, do not want more wages. Healthy conditions to live under, together with reasonable prices of necessities, will do more to increase production and stop disaffection than anything else.—F. WARRIER, Lytcott Grove, East Dulwich.

Weekly Wages.

It should be made compulsory for employers to pay wages weekly, whenever desired, instead of fortnightly or monthly, as is usual in many firms. This would tend to keep many who cannot now avoid it from getting into debt, besides creating a better feeling between employers and employed—for the latter know that employers hold to the present system in order to increase their bank interest, and for other selfish motives.—JAMES A. ROBERTSON, James Gray Street, Glasgow.

The Gleesome Flea.

Many of the Picture Houses at present are infested with fleas—and with other even more noxious insects—a pest easily picked up and very hard to get rid of. This dangerous nuisance could be minimised by having all such places of entertainment thoroughly cleaned and disinfected daily, especially during the summer heat. It is a matter that the Health Minister ought to take up—at once—if local Health authorities won't move in it.—F. G. STEEL, Hutchinson Street, Aberdeen.

Those Sweepstakes' "Sackloads."

Doesn't the mere stopping of "sackloads" of letters containing money for foreign sweepstakes emphasise the fact that there is untold wealth in this country waiting for an issue of Prize Bonds? The owners would much rather invest their money in them than in some of the shady "sweeps" we hear so much about. When will our goody-goodies wake up to the fact that we all like a gamble, especially in one where you never lose your stake!—WILLIAM H. BATCHELER, Trott Street, Battersea, S.W.11.

"The Aims of Labour."

Is it recognised by the leaders of the Labour Movement (which includes the various Trade Unions) that the only way for them to achieve true success is immediately to cease from tampering with wages, and to concentrate the whole of their energies upon the question of the reduction of the cost of living? This is *the* vital question of the many which face us. Let the aim to reduce the cost of living replace the struggle for higher wages, and the success of Labour is won—for none but the shortsighted can applaud the latter policy.—STANLEY GEORGE BERRY, King St., Rochester.

Summer Football.

The chief reason for the much discussed mid-week Football Cup matches is to get through before the season closes. But why should not this national game be played all through the year? In the hot weather, matches surely could take place in the cool of the long evenings—at, say, 8 p.m., during the months when, with the clocks at "summer-time," there is light up to 10 p.m. Such matches could be played on *any* evening, being after working hours, and would form an ideal entertainment for thousands of football lovers—players and onlookers.—JOHN R. WAUGH, Ashfield Road, Dublin.

Government "Jumble Sales."

We learn that there is a vast accumulation of Government stores in France. In due course what has not rotted will be sold by auction in large "lots" to big dealers, who will in turn sell to shopkeepers, who, too, must get their profit before the public can purchase goods for which they have already paid, or are still paying, in taxes. What price a gigantic "jumble sale," as distinct from an auction, in which small people to whom the war has brought no monetary advantage, might have a chance of buying a rusty bicycle, or a pair of blankets, or a crate of pork and beans, at a reasonable figure?—(Rev.) BASIL W. B. MATTHEWS, Station Road, Hampton Wick.

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JOHN BULL AT PLAY.

RACING, FOOTBALL, BOXING AND OTHER SPORTING NOTES.

RACING.

Above a score of "National" horses are down to run at Gatwick and Manchester this week; and the Grand Allies Steeplechase of 1,000 sovs. should attract at least half-a-dozen Liverpool aspirants, including All White. We can safely defer backing Lord Wavertree's commanding young horse until after he has performed at Castle Irwell. The son of White Eagle is not altogether pleasing his trainer, and Mr. Fergusson will be lucky if he gets him to his liking in the three weeks at his disposal.

The National Trial Steeplechase at Gatwick may clear the air a trifle, and Taffytus may demonstrate how fortunate Childlike was to have beaten him at Ludlow. Neither may prove equal to giving weight to Ardonagh, who is on the upgrade, and Loch Allen. Even if Taffytus proved equal to the occasion at Gatwick to-day, he will not attract our suffrages for the National

Loch Allen may, of course, wait for the Grand Allies Steeplechase at Manchester, in which case it may set Clonree a stiff proposition to concede him 11 lbs. Trentino has been kept for this race. Bluntly, the Weyhill trainer can account himself fortunate to have had Frank Webber and Trentino so well handicapped for the two big Manchester prizes.

Our original fancy—Bruff Bridge—remains fairly firm in the Lincolnshire Handicap market, which is more than can be said of either Monteith, Royal Bucks, or Sir Berkeley. It has now been decided that if Ugly Duckling is allowed to take his chance at Lincoln he will be ridden by Scourse—that is, providing he remains unsold until the day of the race.

Mother's Gift ran well enough behind Daydawn at Newbury last week to have a chance for the National Hunt Steeplechase at Cheltenham. Another horse that has been specially trained for the race is Lucy Glitters II., and her trainer considers she has a flattering chance. It is in her favour that she is trained on the spot.

If Poethlyn runs again before the National it will be in the Lingfield Park 'Chase—another £1,000 affair; but as the race is only two miles it will tell us nothing more than how the horse is in fitness and health. Troytown is also a probable runner for this race. At least, he has been entered, and very possibly he will remain at Lingfield to complete his National preparation.

Undoubtedly those backers of The Wisp who hold that—as the horse had no chance of winning, being ineligible—they cannot be called upon to pay, are not to be blamed for appealing. It is to be hoped that this veritable scandal will result in our Racing authorities recognising their responsibility for acceptances.

BOXING.

We are glad to think that the last contest for the Lonsdale belt and the title has given us a better bantam champion than Walter Ross. Not since he won the title from Tommy Noble has he shown form anything approaching championship class, and he beat the Bermondsey boxer last July only because it was a very tired and unfit Noble who took the ring. Had Noble not engaged in that contest with Criqui in Paris, three days before, Ross would never have been champion. His successor, Jimmy Higgins, is another Scot, and is a real champion compared with Ross. While Harold Jones was leading on points there was always that "Jimmy Wilde" finish ready to land. And at the opportune moment it did land, and Jones' dreams of a championship title were shattered. Besides having a good punch with his right, Higgins has a nice straight left which will gain him many points when he is not overmatched in reach.

WEEK'S RACING SELECTIONS.

GATWICK—WEDNESDAY.
National Trial 'Chase—ARDONAGH.
International Hurdle—LIMPSFIELD.
Four Year Old Hurdle—*HOME FIRE.
GATWICK—THURSDAY.
Tantivy 'Chase—CLASHING ARMS.
Champion Hurdle Cup—*PLANET.
Stayers' Hurdle—HERODE AGRIPPA.
MANCHESTER—FRIDAY.
March Hurdle—WRECKER.
Grand Allies 'Chase—LOCH ALLEN.
Alderley Hurdle—*WILDFELLOW.
MANCHESTER—SATURDAY.
Paddock Hurdle—*CASTLE IN SPAIN.
Ellesmere 'Chase—SERBAN.
Two Thousand Hurdle—TRESPASSER.

Result of Football Competition No. 23.

The following 111 competitors sent coupons each containing ten winning teams, and divide the prize £500 :—

T. Abrahams, 48, Holmesdale Rd., Croydon; A. Allen, 35, Harringay Rd., N 8; W. Alp, Westfield Cot., West Av., Rowlands Gill, D'ham; Mrs. B. Ashcroft, 16, Willaston Rd., Walton, L'pool; A. Ashworth, Highfield Ter., Queensbury, Bradford; L. Ball, 22, St. Andrews Rd., N'hampton; Mrs. W. Barnard, 4, George St. Gdns., Brighton; J. Beaumont, 21, Shirland Rd., Twickenham; H. Bender, 22, Fulbrook Rd., N.; E. Bennell, 12, Elliott Rd., Thornton Heath; W. Bissett, 37, Myrtle Gr., Bideford; Mrs. L. Blaneri, 40, Ellesmere Rd., Benwell, N on-T.; J. Bottomley, 26, Rochester St., Bradford; A. Boudinot, 37, Coram Street, W.C.; M. Broughton, 16, Westbourne Av., Dewesbury Rd., Leeds; J. Brown, 3, Evesham Rd., N.11; Mrs. W. Broxup, 87, Briarwood Rd., Clapham Pk.; W. Brundle, 37, Denbigh St., Belgravia; J Bull, 7, Sunridge Pde., Bromley; J. Byrne, 71, Victoria Rd., Workington; J. Caddock, School Hse., Bede Collegiate, Sunderland; R. Clegg, 183, Halifax Rd., Rochdale; A Coulter, 5, Hayo St., M'chester Rd., Bradford; C. Cox, 9, Hillstowe Rd., E.5; C. Cutsforth, 1, Chestnut Gro., Park Rd., Hull; T. Davies, Town Foot, Preesall, Poulton-le-Fylde; J. Dean, 6, Hardy St., Newland, Hull; Miss A. Down, 9, West St., Tavistock, Devon; G. Dugdale, Waterloo St., Belle Isle, Middletn, nr. Leeds; F. Eastwood, 4, Tower St., Leicester; R. Edmunds, 30, L. Chatham St., C.-on-M.; Capt. G. Evans, 214a, Gloucester Terr., Hyde Pk., W.; R. Flew, 33, Rochford Rd., Basingstoke; G. Galer, 11, Westwick Gdns., W.; D. Garmonsway, 44, Lyons Colliery, Hetton-le-Hole; F. Garnett, 176, Glodwick Rd., Oldham; J Giles, Littlecot, Waddon Ct., Court Rd., Croydon; T. Goss, 16, Sheepcote Lane, S.W.11; P. Haigh, 267, Bradford Rd., Moorend, C'heaton; F. Haines, 64, Dene View, Wallsend-on-T.; C. Haldane, 124a, Earlshall Rd., S.E.9; A. Hatton, 189, Wellfield Rd., S.W.16; H. Heitt, Sewage Fm., N.11; R. Hill, 34, Hackle St., Clayton, M'chester; C. Hine, Royal Yacht "Victoria and Albert," Portsmouth; J. Hodge, 5, Braycott Terr. Saltash; F. Holt 842, Romford Rd., E.12; T. Howard, 58, Averill St., Hammersmith; C. Hurd, 124, E. Dulwich Grove; H. Illingworth, 23, Bagshot Rd., Bush Hill Pk.; Miss L. James, 30 Mornington Rd., N.W.1; Miss E. Keeler, Market Place, Loddon, Norwich; H. Kingham, 42, Clifton Cr., S.E.; J. Knight, 3, Moreak Pl., Truro; H. Lakey, 108, Elliscombe Rd., S.E.7.; C. Lamb, 7, Corn Mkt., Romsey; R. Lane, Lamb Lane, Bramhall; Miss A. Lawrence, Robin's Bridge Rd., Coggeshall, Essex; J. Lazorsk, 38, Woodstock Rd., Forest Gate, E.; H. Legg, 53, High Street, King's Heath, B'ham; J. Leslie, 9, Chobham Rd., E.; J. Lowenthal, 73, Gt. Newton St., L'pool; T. McGrath, Valley Rd., Leiston; H. McGregor, 27, Tokar St., Eastney, P'mouth; H. Marchant, 49, Arthur Mews, Praed St., W.1; A. Maybury, 79, Welsh Row, Nantwich; W. Metcalf, 20, Easson Rd., Darlington; Mrs. Miller, Court Read Farm, Gt. Chart, Ashford; F Mock, Heanton St., Braunton; A. Morris, 70, Addison Rd., St. Anne's Pk., Bristol; T. Morton, 5, Highrood Terr., Mold Gn., Huddersfield; Miss L. Mottram; 80, Claremont Rd., Rugby; L. Neary (Stoker), H.M.S. "Victory," Portsmouth; F. Paine, 5, Grosvenor View, Blackman Lane, Leeds; J. Partington, 29, Clone St., Daubhill, Bolton; W. Peck, 118, Jackson St., Goole; A. Purches, 93, Long St., Walsall; Reakes S/S/M., 11, Barrack Rd., Chapeltown Rd., Leeds; G. Reynolds, Berrow, nr. Leabury, Worcester; T. Richardson, 4, Heaviley Gr., Stockport; J. Ringham, 20, Drury Lane, Lincoln; W. Risk, 34, Union Rd., Camelton, Falkirk; C. Robinson, 11, Lord St., New Wortley, Leeds; N. Robson, 3, Regent Pl., Starbeck, Harrogate; J. Ryan, 89, Corrance Rd., Acre Lane, S.W.; H. Sauter, Churchyard, Cranbrook; Mrs. Seymour, 7, Lancaster Grns., Southend; E. Shepard, c/o Mr. Rouse, West St., Shepston-on-S.; D. Smith, 10, Lynadock St., Greenock; W. Stalker, 16, Stevenson Dr., Langside, Glas.; W. Stead, 65, Hall St., Bradford; J. Stewart, 22, Aldred Rd., S.E.; A. Stout, 3, Island View, Victoria Cr., Up. Parkstone; G. Sullivan, 17, Conference Pl., Wingate Rd., Armley, Leeds; J. Taylor, 16, Marshfield Av., Goole; R. Thackray, North House, Balderaby, Ripon; C. Thistle, 10, Meadow Rd., Merton, S.W.; R. Thomas, 23, Alison St., Tranmere, Birkenhead; H. Tipping, 1, Spring Gdns., Stockport; E. Townsend, 15, Queens Rd., New Malden; A. Ward, R.A.M.C., Dept. Guard Room, Crookham Camp; F. Whalley Street House Fm., Addington, nr. Ilkley; T. White, Star and Garter Hospital, Richmond; H. Wilkins, 34, High Rd., N.22; S. Wilkinson, The Village, Hawick; R. William, 105, Rosslyn St., Aigburth Rd., L'pool; J. Williams, Harlow Terr., Harrogate; H. Willis, 5, Cheviot View, Gosforth, N.-on-T.; G. Wilson, 13, Wingfield St., Bradford; S. Womack, 167, Durham Rd., Girlington, Bradford; H. Young, 45, Newark Rd., Lincoln.

FOOTBALL.

Many a team has excelled in the Second League only to find itself out of its element when promoted to the First League. Thus the question has frequently been asked this season whether the Spurs really have a First League team playing in Second League football.

Peculiarly fascinating, therefore, will be the Spurs' Cup Tie test with Aston Villa in the fourth round. So far, the Londoners have had easy games in the Cup, for which the Villa are still favourites. It should be a wonderful match unless—one never knows—the Villa should shatter illusions and demonstrate that there is still a wide margin between First League football and that which looks so brilliant in the lesser sphere of the Second League.

The menace to industrial output by the large attendances at mid-week football matches has led to the Football Association being influentially urged to fix the Cup re-plays for Saturdays. Our candid opinion is that the F.A. reply is evasive and superficially regardless of vital national interests in these very exceptional times. Sums running into six figures have been produced showing loss of output and wages in connection with a few of this season's replayed ties—and yet the F.A., whilst pleading justification, asks what steps have been taken in regard to other mid-week sport!

It may be that the Football League, which is all-powerful, would kick against its programme being disturbed by replayed Cup Ties; but with a week now added to the football season at each end, there would appear to be scope for postponed League matches to be played in the evenings of the later months. After all, not very many would be postponed on account of replayed Cup Ties. Sport and industry should go hand in hand, and neither be a menace to the other.

HOCKEY.

To say that we were astonished at the prowess of the Women hockey players who came from all parts of England for a series of territorial matches at Richmond last week, is to put it mildly. Much of the play, especially in the intelligent conception of the art of combination, was quite remarkably fine. Moreover, generally speaking, there was commendable self-control, which suggests that the unhealthy over-excitement and ultra-keenness associated with women's sport is being eliminated.

In the past we have had medical testimony to the effect that the physical benefits derived from sport—more particularly competitive sport—for women and girls has been counterbalanced by the acute nervous tension and the hysterically bitter disappointment of defeat.

ATHLETICS.

L'Entente Cordiale sport is doing so much good just now that we should like to know why the National Cross-Country Union have turned down the invitation from France for an international race in Paris in April. Spontaneous events of this kind are far more valuable to sport than the artificiality and forcing process associated with the Olympic Games—to the Council of which the Cross-Country Union have appointed a delegate with merely non-committal "powers."

Meanwhile, our leading sportsman, His Majesty the King, has granted the use of Windsor Great Park for the National Cross-Country Championship on March 13th. Cross-country is a great sport and particularly happy in its patrons, as among its most ardent supporters are the Earl of Athlone, Lord Desborough, the Marquess of Lincolnshire and Sir Frederick Dyson.

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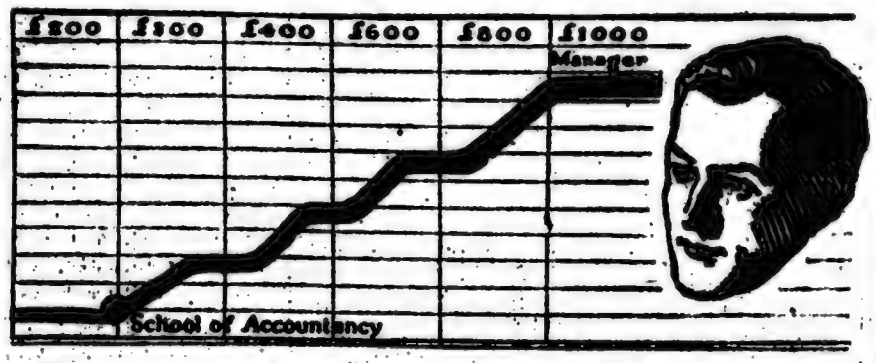

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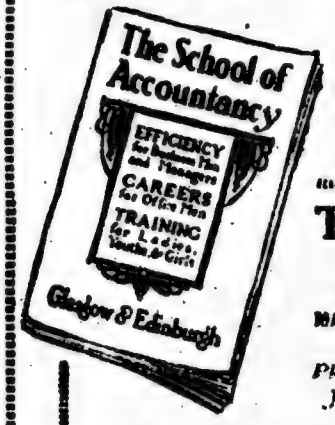

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OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheeseparing, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

The Homing Birds:—Less than 200,000 of the temporary Army remain to be demobilised, and it is hoped that the last man will be at his own fireside before the advent of "flaming June."

Oh, Fie:—The wife of a high official in the Sudan has induced an Order forbidding our troops to enter Khartoum with their legs encased in the comfortable "shorts" that make them look like boy-scouts. If their knees are an offence, what about the Highlanders—and what about the very much evening dress worn by the ladies of Khartoum themselves? By the way, if the Sirdar investigates, he will find that the men are *compelled* to parade in "shorts" for drill purposes. Then why not for "walking out"?

Pay in India:—From Ferozepore and other stations in India we learn that troops recently arrived from home have failed to receive the extra pay granted last July. For this we must thank the Financial Department and the native Babus who serve as clerks. Thousands of soldiers, too, arrive home from that country, but their pay sheets do not follow them for months, they being thrown into financial distress in the meantime.

Pauper or Hero?—We have been sent some of the underclothing issued to demobilised men at Catterick Camp, and have forwarded it to Ordnance Headquarters. Positively, it would be an insult to give the rags to the most sunken pauper. We read advertisements offering many thousands of surplus military garments for sale, and are left wondering why our done-with Tommies should be provided with "clothing" that would not be allowed inside a Salvation Army shelter.

"JACK."

More Money:—The bounty due to H.M.S. *Calypso*, *Caradoc*, *Wakeful* and *Vortigern* for capturing the Bolshevik destroyer *Spartak* is now ready for issue; also for H.M.S. *Snapdragon* and H.M. trawler *Crudosin* for sinking the U-boat 68.

Belated Leave:—From various ships at home we have complaints that members of their crews have not yet had their Christmas leave. Perhaps Whitehall intends to give it to them on the double next Yuletide.

Bilked Again:—The Admiralty recently asked wireless ratings and others in the Fleet to volunteer for coastguard services. The lure was a cottage for each, and all the blessings of family life with the missus and the kids. But, lor' bless you, those who volunteered to at least one station, the Hunstanton, found no honeysuckle—no cottages at all, in fact. But Whitehall provided lodgings at 35s. a week. We are told that the men had nobody to represent them—but they have now.

Our Daily Thanks.

From the Pay Office, Winchester:—

To the Editor, John Bull,—On behalf of fellow clerks and myself at the above Regimental Pay Office, I beg to thank you for putting our case before the Authorities. Your "pill" was not long in acting, for last Saturday we were informed that all railway fares of the Clerks from Southampton would be paid and past payments be refunded. We are indeed greatly indebted to you, and—excuse this expression—you are a "brick."

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

A Little Dragoon Guard:—A man just demobilised from the Dragoon Guards applied for admission to the Port of London police force, but was turned down because he is a quarter of an inch below the regulation height! Yet he was good enough for one of the tallest regiments in H.M. Service!

Is This Common?—In October last a man suffering from double amputation was granted training as a diamond polisher. Later on, the Medical Referee advised him to give up the work on account of neurasthenia. He did so—whereupon the War Pensions Committee told him that he would not be allowed training for any other industry. Since then the poor chap has been starving on his meagre pension.

Make Way for the Wounded!—At Mount Pleasant may be found discharged soldiers with wounds, and broken in health, being employed in standing work, while girls and others of the staff who are sound in wind and limb are provided with sedentary jobs. Have the heads of Departments no hearts?

A Post Office Plea:—Now that an increase of the pension granted to ex-members of various Public Departments is under consideration, it is to be hoped that the Premier will give careful attention to the memorial on behalf of the Post Office Royal Engineers (the "K" Company). The Holt Committee unanimously recommended:—"That the whole period of service in 'K' Company, where it is followed by established service in the Post Office, be treated as Post Office service and not Military service for the purposes of computing Civil Pension, and that the pensions of the officers already retired be corrected accordingly, and the arrears made good to them." The time has come for this recommendation to be acted upon.

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COMPANY MEETING.

HARRODS (BUENOS AIRES), LTD.

An extraordinary general meeting of Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, was held on February 27 at the Assembly Room, Harrods Stores, Brompton Road, S.W., for the purpose of passing a resolution authorising the directors, subject to the acceptance of an agreement dated February 12 last, to increase from time to time the capital to an amount not exceeding the nominal amount of £4,712,000, by the creation of new Ordinary shares of £1 each, ranking equally with the existing 900,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each of the company, and also a resolution was submitted that, "until otherwise determined by the company in general meeting, the number of directors should not be less than four nor more than ten." Sir Alfred J. Newton, Bart., presided.

The Chairman said they had met to consider the proposed acquisition by this company of shares in the South American Stores (Gath and Chaves), Ltd. The directors of the two companies had taken into consideration the past and present trading values and positions, and carefully estimated and weighed future prospects, trade possibilities, and tendencies, with the result they had come unanimously to the conclusion that their recommendations to their shareholders should be adopted for the common welfare of all concerned. The capital of the South American Stores as at July 31, 1919, being the end of their last financial year, consisted of 400,000 Preference shares of £1 each, 1,500,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each, and 1,050,000 Deferred shares of 1s. each, making a total capital of £1,932,500. At that date there were outstanding First Mortgage Debentures amounting to £864,700, and since the close of their financial year they had issued a further £1,250,000 Mortgage Debentures, making a total of £2,114,700, upon which 5½ per cent. per annum was payable, free of income-tax. The Preference shares were entitled to a cumulative preferential dividend of 6 per cent. per annum, and the Ordinary shares were entitled to a non-cumulative dividend of 6 per cent per. annum. The surplus profits were then divided as to 15 per cent. among the Preference shares, 65 per cent. among the Ordinary shares, and 20 per cent. to the Deferred shares. The dividends respectively paid last year amounted to 8½ per cent. upon the Preference shares, 8½ per cent. upon the Ordinary shares and 2½d. upon each of the Deferred shares. This distribution in all amounted to about £166,600, and in addition £50,000 was placed to contingencies fund and £52,267 was transferred to the general reserve fund, which stands at £300,000. He need not recite the sound commercial reasons which influenced the board to make the proposals.

He had not heard one voice raised against the proposals for amalgamation, for the advantages were self-evident. Although he had not heard any really serious objection to amalgamation, there had been statements made by the respective shareholders against the terms—on the one hand at the South American Stores meeting shareholders thought the terms arranged were unsatisfactory to them, that a higher price should be paid; while, on the other hand, they themselves had comments from their shareholders that the price they were paying was too high. In these circumstances it was therefore only fair to claim that the directors of the respective companies had been successful in arriving at a fair and satisfactory middle course. After detailing the terms he said: The South American Stores would remain a separate entity, but there would be an interchange of directors.

The resolutions for the increase of the capital and for the alteration in the articles as to the future directorate were carried in each case with one dissentient.

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If any difficulty in obtaining, write to the proprietors, "Stone's Ginger Wine," Moreland Street, London, E.C.1.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

FINANCIAL NOTES—AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

By Our City Editor.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Lever's Latest.

In the last report of John Knight, Ltd., there was a remark to the effect that although Lever Bros. Ltd,, held a large block of Ordinary and Deferred shares in the Company, it was expressly stipulated that there should be no interference with the existing control or management. It may have been a challenge or a bait. At any rate, Lord Leverhulme has now offered to buy the whole of the Deferred shares at £13 10s. in cash, and at the same time the Ordinary are to be converted into 25 per cent. cumulative Preferred Ordinary. These are generous terms which, it may be taken for granted, will be accepted all the more readily as the separate identity of the old firm is to be maintained.

Another "Great Success."

Lists for subscriptions to the new Exchequer Bonds were closed last Saturday (28th), but the amount of cash obtained has not been disclosed at the time of going to press. We know, however, what proportion of the Bonds maturing this year has been converted. It is rather less than one-half—97 millions out of 198 millions. As the issue was made primarily for conversion purposes this result must be regarded as decidedly disappointing, although in some quarters it has been hailed as a "great success." I wonder what the Chancellor thinks of it? I shall be considerably surprised if the "new money" is sufficient to pay off the balance of the maturing bonds.

Fats.

We have all been so educated during the war to realise the importance of fats, whether from their calorific or other points of view, that any commercial proposition dealing with them must demand attention. I have seen the prospectus of the Sherbro Palm Oil Co., a relatively small concern with £150,000 capital, the bulk of which is offered for subscription. Its principal activities would seem to be the extraction of oil from palm fruit, one of the most important ingredients in the manufacture of margarine, vegetable butter, cattle cake, soap, candles, etc. The concession obtained from the Governor of Sierra Leone covers a large area dealing with nearly 40,000 palms, and from the figures supplied in the prospectus the profits would seem to be very tempting. This particular industry received before the war the special attention of Germany who, but for the events of the past five years, might well have cornered it; and for this reason alone any undertaking under respectable and substantial auspices deserves support.

TAX THEORIES GONE DAFT.

Sir John Anderson, Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, in evidence given before the Select Committee on War Fortunes, stated that from calculations made by his department, he believed that one thousand millions could be raised by a graduated tax on war wealth, and he estimated the number of prospective victims possessing more than £5,000 capital at 340,000. Subsequent cross-examination considerably modified Sir John's estimates, but that is a point of secondary importance. What does matter is giving semi-official sanction to a wild and idiotic chimera. Goodness knows, there is enough revolutionary rubbish flying about to make it more than ever necessary for people in responsible positions to avoid providing the enemy with ammunition. Already Sir John's figures have been seized upon by incendiaries to prove what a lot of wealth there is in the country "to burn," and the mischief that may result is incalculable.

Taxation to be tolerable must have two qualities; it must be easily collected and it must be distributed equitably. Sir John's scheme is to take 25 per cent. of all increases of wealth which accrued between, say, June, 1914, and June, 1919. It sounds an attractive way of getting at the war profiteer until it is examined. Sir John admits that his department cannot attempt to make any distinction between "the malefactor and the benefactor"—all must be drawn into his net. Consequently, the person who has squandered his gains on pleasure, jewellery and the like, as a great many have, will go scot free, while his careful, patriotic neighbour who bought War Bonds will have one-fourth of his savings taken from him. That is the simplest case—and what a magnificent advertisement it will prove for the next Government Loan! But that is only the fringe of the subject. Most manufacturers and producers have put a large part of their war profits into extensions of plant and the purchase of raw materials at the greatly enhanced prices lately ruling. They have no more free capital than is necessary for the carrying-on of their business—often not enough. Are *they* to be compelled to sell at a sacrifice, or to embarrass their operations by borrowing at high rates of interest? It seems to me a great pity that the Government has blundered into this inquiry before the ground was thoroughly explored—as it evidently was not.

Kaffir Unrest.

Misfortune dogs the Kaffir market. Just when the mines seemed to be entering on a new era of prosperity owing to the gold premium, first the white employees went on strike and then the native "boys." The latter is the more serious development, although it has had the effect of bringing the whites to terms. It is alleged, and I do not doubt it is true, that "International Socialists" (a polite name for revolutionary firebrands) have been stirring up trouble among the natives. It is to be hoped that the Government will get at the root of the trouble and stamp it out, for the "black peril" is ever present among the small, scattered population of South Africa.

Motor Finance.

Over four months ago I sounded a warning note in regard to motor shares and advised my readers to get out. From information which reaches me, I fear that many firms have bitten off more than they can chew, with the result that they have more orders on hand than they can finance—and altogether the position is very disquieting.

Harrod's South American Extension.

The acquisition of the share capital of the South American Stores (Gath & Chaves), Ltd., marks another important step in the enterprising career of Harrods. The fusion of their Buenos Aires business with that of the older undertaking is a bold bid on the part of British capital for a commanding place in the commercial world of South America, and the shareholders are to be congratulated on the deal.

An Important Brick Issue.

The prospectus of Eastwoods, Ltd., the well-known brick makers, strikes me as a sound proposition. It is an old-established business, and the purchase price of £175,000 for assets, exclusive of good will, valued by a well-known firm at £300,000, appears extremely reasonable. I need not dilate upon the demand for building material. We are told that the Government programme includes a building scheme of half-a-million houses, but be this as it may, there is a far greater demand from the public generally—indeed, the field is enormous. Anyone who travels on our main railway lines will have observed the significant fact that the firm's depots are situated in a very large number of important centres, thereby assuring exceptional facilities for transport, etc. The Board includes elements of strong financial and expert technical ability, and I anticipate a heavy subscription for the shares.

OUR FINANCIAL LETTER BAG.

EDITORIAL REPLIES.

(All enquiries must be accompanied by a postal order for 1s., and bear the full name and address of correspondent as evidence of good faith.)

Mrs. M. B. (Hyde Park).—*John Barker and Co.:* Perfectly good, and the prospects are excellent. In your case, however, I should prefer *Exchequer Bonds.*——H. T. (New Deer).—The two standard works are "Rubber Producing Companies," issued by the Mincing Lane Tea and Rubber Association, and the "Rubber Handbook," issued by the *Financier*, Coleman Street.——A. Y. (Edinburgh).—*German Marks:* It is a dangerous game to play, as you are up against the most powerful financiers all the time. However, being in, I think your best plan is to average, if you can afford to do so.——N. D. P. (Limerick).—I prefer *Argentine Iron and Steel.* The country is going ahead by leaps and bounds, and these shares are almost bound to improve.——B. H. J. (Meole).—*Santa Gertrudis:* The price is fairly high, but the prospects are excellent.——C. B. H. (Tiverton).—*Kapoewas:* The Company owns a large estate, which is only partially developed. There is every reason to expect that it will do well. The present price is about 57s.——M. F. H. (Rugeley).—*Exchequer Bonds* yield a little more than *Consols*, and there is less risk of depreciation, so that the exchange would be advisable.——A. K. B. (Chesterfield).—*New Scotland Land:* It is a very promising speculative investment. You will not get immediate results, but there are great possibilities.——Enquirer (Birmingham).—Sell *Fuller's Electric* and *Alliance Films* for choice. Keep *Austin Motors*, as they have the best chance of improvement.——G. J. T. (Northam).—*Hampton Plains:* I am afraid it is a case of one swallow not making a summer.——A. C. B. (Mc. Millick).—*Petroleum Options:* Conditions have changed, and the outlook is not very promising. I do not recommend a purchase of *Premier Pipes* at present. The rubber market is likely to improve, but I cannot pick out anything for an "immediate profit." I wish I could.——J. E. S. (Keighley).—*Laminated Coal:* The address of the company is 65, London Wall, E.C.——G. F. N. (Croydon).—*Traders and General Assurance:* Keep them until there is a market for them. I do not advise you to touch the other shares.——Nomad (Radlett).—Have nothing to do with the firm mentioned. *Kintra Kellas* and *C. A. Vandervell* deferred are worth keeping for a higher price. *Lomah Exploration* is doubtful, and *Argentine Tobacco* is being liquidated.——C. B. L. (Dumfriesshire).—*Commercial Bank of London.* There is no occasion for any anxiety.——E. J. R. (Athy).—*Tampico Panuco Preferred:* Fair speculation at the price and likely to improve, although rumours of purchase by Royal Dutch have been denied. All the other shares mentioned are first-class.——H. L. (Leicester).—*Foundation Share Exchange:* Have nothing to do with these people or their schemes. I said so last week in reply to another correspondent.

(A considerable number of replies are held over for lack of space, but every endeavour is being made to answer them promptly by post.)

The Subscription List is now open of

EASTWOODS LIMITED

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1908 to 1917.)

Builders and Cement Merchants and Brick Manufacturers.

CAPITAL £300,000

260,000 Shares are offered to the Public for Subscription at par.

The Company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring and extending the old-established business of Builders' Merchants for many years carried on by Messrs. Eastwood and Co., Ltd.

Messrs. Horace Boot and Partners, of Westminster, in their report state that the Company is one of the largest of its kind in the United Kingdom, and that the assets to be purchased for £175,000 are valued on a conservative basis at £300,463.

The manufacture of bricks both for public and private account is going to be on an enormous scale and must continue so for many years to come. The Parliamentary Private Secretary of the Minister of Health has within the last few days stated that the Government programme aims at building 500,000 houses, but that the Government programme is only a fraction of the total requirements of the country, the working class accommodation alone required being at least 1,630,000 houses to be built during the next ten years.

Prospectuses can be obtained from any branch of the London City and Midland Bank or from the

Solicitors:

CHURCHILL, SMALLMAN and Co., 1, Broad Street Place, E.C.2.

Brokers:

LANE BROS., 17, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.2.

DIMMOCK BROS. and COWTAN, 21, Spring Gardens, Manchester.

Secretary:

WARWICK W. CLARKE, F.C.I.S., 35, New Broad Street, London, E.C.2

COMPANY MEETINGS.

SOUTH AMERICAN STORES.

Harrods Offer to acquire controlling interest.

An extraordinary general meeting of the South American Stores (Gath and Chaves), Limited, was held on February 23 at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C., for the purpose nominally of altering the number of the directors, but also for considering a proposal from Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, for the purchase of the undertaking.

Baron F. A. d'Erlanger (the chairman of the company) presided.

The Chairman said that the meeting had been convened for the purpose of explaining the proposal contained in the circular of February 12. Like themselves, Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, had been sailing on smooth waters for the last two or three years, but the world was in an era of amalgamations, and the indications were that such a policy was not only in the interests of shareholders, but also in that of the public.

There was a further point that both themselves and Harrods were contemplating extensive building operations, and it was quite natural that Harrods should have approached them with a view to seeing whether some arrangement could be devised by which the two South American firms could join hands. At first he had been entirely opposed to any arrangement which would not have had as a basis the predominance of the South American Stores, and a deadlock arose in connection with the obstacle of the Deferred shares of Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, which at the price ruling at the time represented goodwill of nearly £2,500,000. Sir Woodman Burbidge put forward a proposal which led to further negotiations in which he (the chairman) had stated that if the offer were not coupled with a cash offer, so that the shareholders of the South American Stores (Gath and Chaves) should have either the right to accept in exchange for their holdings a certain number of shares in Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, or to sell outright, his board would not see their way to put the proposal before their shareholders. Finally, an understanding had been arrived at which he recommended to the acceptance of the shareholders—namely, three Ordinary shares in Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, for every two Preference shares, or in lieu thereof 32s. 6d. in cash for each Preference share. The terms in respect of the Ordinary shares were exactly the same, and as regarded the Deferred shares the offer was either one Ordinary share in Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, for every three Deferred shares, or 7s. 2½d. in cash for each such Deferred share. In the opinion of the board the offer could not be more equitable. The slight difference in favour of the existing Ordinary shares as regarded participation in profits was counter-balanced by the privileged position of the Preference shares, which were cumulative, and ranked immediately after the Debentures, and had over a million and a half of capital behind them. Their Deferred shares were entitled to 20 per cent. of the surplus profit after payment of 6 per cent. on the Preferred and Ordinary capital, and in liquidation they would be, roughly, entitled to 20 per cent. of the sum remaining after repayment of capital and accrued interest. Were the company contemplating liquidation, and Messrs. Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, were offering to purchase the assets of the company on a basis which would leave for distribution amongst the shareholders the £3,466,666 which they were offering to pay in cash, then the Deferred share capital would be entitled to £355,333, or the equivalent of 6s. 9d. per share.

The terms of the offer were criticised by shareholders, and the resolution moved by the chairman, on being put to the meeting, was lost on a show of hands, but on a poll being taken was carried by an overwhelming majority, the figures being 229,325 votes in favour of the resolution and 737 against.

CEREBOS LIMITED.

The sixteenth annual meeting of the shareholders of Cerebos, Limited, was held on Tuesday, 24th inst., at the Station Hotel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Mr. W. H. Collins, the Chairman and Managing Director, presided.

The Chairman, before moving the adoption of the annual report and accounts, referred in sympathetic terms to the loss sustained through the death of Mr. Jas. R. Stewart, one of the original directors.

Referring to the balance-sheet, the Chairman thought the figures spoke for themselves, and that very little in the way of detailed comment was necessary. He dealt at some length with the acquisition of the business of the Middlewich Salt Company, Ltd., and explained that it was now some 16 years since they purchased the Greatham works, and ever since they took possession they had at various times improved and increased the output. Following the fire in 1912, they installed a vacuum plant, the output of which they considered would be ample for their requirements, but, owing to the continual growth of their business and the increased demand for their goods, they had found it necessary during the last year or two to purchase salt. In saying this he did not mean to convey that they had reached a maximum output at Greatham. They could easily increase the output by installing an additional vacuum plant or other means of producing salt. But to do this would mean that all their goods would of necessity still have to come from one source of supply. At home they had a very big trade in every town in the United Kingdom, and anything that they could save in railway carriage or other transport charges meant additional profit to the Company, and when deciding to purchase the Middlewich Company the Board took all these factors into most careful consideration. It was obvious to them that, if they had a factory in Cheshire, it would not only serve as an additional source of supply, but also as an alternative in case of fire or other accident; but most important was the saving to be effected by packing and distributing from there as well as from Greatham, which must prove very beneficial by the saving of carriage in delivering to customers nearer to Cheshire than Greatham. They only took over this business in August of last year, and during the few months before the close of their financial year, November 30, 1919, they had had considerable assistance from Middlewich, which he hoped would be increased as time went on. They had a capable resident engineer in charge of the business, also one of their men from Greatham who had been with the Company upwards of twenty years. He would say no more about this subject, only that it was another step in the progress made by the Company, and he hoped and believed it would turn out as successful as the purchase of the Greatham estate had done.

As had been mentioned a year ago, the factory in Paris was not nearly large enough for the present business, and since then every effort had been made to secure new premises. Ultimately a factory had been purchased which, with a few alterations and improvements, would be large enough for the French business for some years to come.

The Chairman then went on to say that he had only just returned from a visit to Canada, in which country the Company had done a steady business for the last twenty years. During his visit he was pleased to find their goods in demand, and it was surprising how they had maintained their sales, seeing that during the last few years they had only been able to ship a war package instead of their usual high-class packages, which were known throughout the world. He had visited a number of the large stores and discussed their goods with twenty of their Toronto agent's salesmen, who had all assured him that there was a greatly increased trade to be done with their goods in Canada. As the result of his visit they would now take steps to open a factory in Toronto, which he hoped would be the means of increasing their business, seeing that they would be able to get better service to their Canadian customers, with a factory at Toronto, than they could possibly give by shipping everywhere from England.

From the figures presented to them it must be obvious that they were doing a greatly increased business, both in value and volume, and, to cope with this increase, it was necessary to provide the means to deal with it. During the last year they had made additions to their plant and machinery, and at Greatham had extended buildings to quite a considerable extent. In addition to these extensions, they had added still further to their fleet of motor vans in London, and had replaced some of the horse vehicles which they had been using on hire contract. Further developments were contemplated, all necessitating capital outlay, and the directors were very carefully considering this question, and might find it necessary to raise capital. He need hardly remind them that there was scarcely a business in the country but what had required additional capital to carry on since the war, owing to the increased values and the increased business. They had been able to manage without any increased capital, although their business had increased more than 100 per cent. in value and volume, compared with pre-war figures.

After expressing the indebtedness of the shareholders and the directors to the staff and workpeople for their loyal help during the year, the Chairman concluded by moving the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously.

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HARRIS Tweeds, direct from Scotland, genuine hand made, hard-wearing, all wool tweed, direct from weaver to wearer, 11s. 6d. a yard; selected patterns post free.—A. Driver (Dept. 34), 86, Eastgate, Inverness, Scotland.

BOOTS.—1s. saved. Buy direct from our Northampton Factory, Gents', Ladies' and Children's Boots. Send for catalogue.—John Emmet Ltd. Dept. 7, Northampton.

TWILIGHT SLEEP NURSING HOMES, LTD., Bushey Lodge, Teddington, Middlesex. Resident Physician. Write for booklet, Lady Secretary (Office 21).

HOUSEHOLD MAGIC for Chaps, Chilblains, Colds Cuts and Burns, is only 1/3 per tin. Homocea Ointment touches the spot (all Chemists and stores) Free sample, 1½d.—Homocea, Willesden, N.W.10.

SACCHARINE TABLETS.—Prices: 500 2/3, 1,000 4/6, post free. Larger quantities at special prices.—D. Doyle (Dept. J.B.), 16, Drummond Crescent, Euston.

PILLOW CASES.—Plain cotton, superior quality, 20 by 30 ins., four for 7s. 9d. Plain linen, buttoned, superior quality, 20 by 30 inches., four, for 15s. 9d. Orders under £1, postage 6d. Write for free Bargain List.—HUTTON'S, 102, Larne, Ireland.

CALCULATE with speed and precision. Study Commercial Arithmetic, and qualify for a highly paid post. Particulars free.—City Correspondence College (Dept. 100), 83, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

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"AQUACOAT."—The Last Word in Raincoats. All Styles, ladies and gents, C.P. carr. paid, worth 4 guineas. Smart Tailor Made, fully proofed Gaberdine cloth, lined throughout with smart Check lining. Write or call for Illustrated Booklet with patterns, etc.—Aquacoat, Ltd., Dept. 14, 170, Market St., Manchester.

FOR ALL NERVE TROUBLES send postcard for free sample of Curacea—the liquid Nerve Tonic, to Curacea Co. (Sec. 2), Elm Grove, London, E.N.16.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[*The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, INSURANCE POLICIES, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C. 2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

F. J. D. (Manchester).—"The Kaiser is checkmate in Holland, a position sometimes occupied by a king." No—an obvious stalemate, due to the Allies blundering the moves.

"BELVEDERE" (Kent).—Both President Wilson and General Pershing have said America won the war. Modesty never keeps a Yankee out of the front of any picture.

"GRANNY" (Cambridge).—"I am not presuming to think that I could conduct your paper or competitions, or perform your Parliamentary duties." Don't be so beastly modest.

"RAILWAY CLERK" (Hartlepool).—The *Daily Herald* has been during the war, and in our own opinion still is, a consistent enemy of Britain. It hampered our country and "comforted" the Huns in every way it could and dared.

J. P. and E. M. B. (Eltham).—Glad our efforts to prevent the closing down of the Women's Hostel are so much appreciated. We would try to accommodate you at 93, Long Acre, but we have so many impressionable young men on our staff.

D. MACL. . . . (Harrogate).—Quite true. If strike leaders were put on strike pay with the rest, we fancy strikes would be less frequent.

M. M. A. (Glasgow).—Sorry if our recent articles have "distressed" you. Perhaps it's the sudden change from a sloppier diet.

"WORKMAN" (Northampton).—So you have found an English Champion boxer "in a dream." Far more useful if you had discovered one in a ing.

W. B. (Brooklyn).—Glad you thought our American articles were "opportune and necessary." Between ourselves, that's why we wrote them.

"CONSTANT READER" (Edinburgh).—Not long ago we devoted a whole article to the subject of Divorce Law Reform, but if you missed it we must try to make time to write another.

I. K. (Nigeria).—We note that your bread "is greatly inferior to that sold in England." So please keep it.

"ONE WHO HAS SUFFERED" (Southampton).—We do not like to hear of that conductor who refused to let his car "wait a minute" to take up a few hospital soldiers, minus one limb each. He was an ingrate, for he probably made the poor fellows late for their wards.

"CARRIE" (S.W.).—"I trust you are not in favour of putting the clock back." We are in favour of summer time and plenty of it.

"MARBLE ARCH."—It is probable that many poor curates in the East-End haven't enough to eat nor enough to wear.

J. C. (Rotherham).—So you think the Government and employers between them will "cause a revolution." Don't forget we are watching them.

"A PAL OF BYGONE DAYS."—"This is Leap Year wherein every lady has the privelidge to propose. And seeing that I am so deeply in love with you, I ask you to axcept my proposal." Look before you leap, dear. We are not in the marriage mart—nor do we remember you. Again, you're too late.

DRIVER F. (Bedford).—Our private impression is that "the last people to strike" will be those who write letters to the newspapers for nothing.

A. H. (Seaton Sluice).—So you think that instead of reproving the young school-teacher, we should have stood him two drinks and a cigar. Sorry to differ.

W. J. (Preston).—We entirely agree with you as to "the only lawful way of building up the population," having no faith whatever in these new-fangled ideas.

I. B. (Bridlington).—"My husband and I are very fond of dumb animals." Very nice too. Do you keep a bee?

R. W. (Westhanger).—If you have been unfairly discharged by the S.E. & Chatham Railway Co., see what your Union can do for you.

H. J. (High Wycombe).—How kind of Wycombe ministers to ask the Magistrates not to renew, when it lapses, the licence of a decent public house! Perhaps they would like to lose their livings by having their chapels shut up. Oh, Christian charity, where art thou hiding?

"ONE WHO HAS HELPED" (Clacton-on-Sea).—Not having seen the design of Clacton's proposed War Memorial, we cannot criticise Mr. Bernard French's description of it as a "winged effigy thing," but we think his remarks might have been tempered with a little more respect for the fallen.

F. C. (Birmingham).—If "nothing short of publicity" will persuade the Wesleyan and General Insurance Company to treat their agents properly, here's a piece of it to go on with. More when we can spare it.

R. W. (New York).—Glad to hear from you. Shall we send you our photograph?

MRS. R. (St. Budeaux).—"A friend told me to send these humorous bits and you would send me a few shillings for it." Sorry, madam, but no shillings for a wrong version of the chorus of an old comic song, "Baby's Got a Tooth!" Whatever next?

H. G. F. (Wandsworth).—O, you Limerick writers! Your last line is sesquipedalian—far too many feet to it.

"REDDITCH."—"Stick up and don't be bought over by Lloyd George or the King." We are sticking up—and our price is beyond rubies.

MRS. C. A. L. (Headcorn).—A butcher you know of cured himself of consumption by drinking a glass of warm bullock's blood every time he killed an animal! You "do wish everybody would give it a trial." Madam, we are not all butchers, and you make our tum-tums quite squeamy.

ST. I. I. C. (West Bath).—"If unacceptable, please destroy." Thanks; duly deposited in the destructor.

"MAINBRACE" (Saltburn).—Afraid we do not quite catch your drift. Perhaps you could express yourself more lucidly in Chinese.

"CHURCHLESS BOYS" (Berks).—We note your efforts to "ginger up" the Vicar to hold more church services. Is he lazy or tired?

R. I. P. (Harringay).—Cheer up and get a smile on. As Josh Billings has said, next tew vartew in this world, fun is the most preshus thing in it.

"WEEKLY READER" (Bootle).—To fill the cheaper parts of the theatre by the "early doors" at enhanced prices is a piece of sharp practice that is growing far too common.

H. M. E. K. (Kensington).—Afraid no time to "ask questions about the origin of the men in the Bank of England." Probably it was quite normal.

T. J. M. (Middlesbrough).—A man said to a young girl, "Will 10s. do you any good?" It may have been meant as generosity, or as a prelude to impropriety, but the magistrate was right in dismissing a charge of using insulting words.

W. H. B. (Marylebone).—We understand a notice has been exhibited for years at Messrs. Maple's and other large firms that employees could give and could be given a moment's notice to leave.

"WORKER" (Walsall).—You are ethically bound to give him who pays you of your best. "He that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster."

A. S. F. (Ibstock).—Your heroic toil in rescuing a miner from under a fall of ten tons of stone certainly merits recognition, local or otherwise. The mine manager should see to it.

"A LOYALIST" (Co. Down).—"The only oppression Ireland is suffering from is the oppression of prosperity." Wish we were groaning under the same grievance.

B. S. (Plumstead).—"Will you send me some of your stamps?" You can have the ½d. stamp attached to your postcard if you call for it; also the stamp denoting the penny surcharge.

"DEMOBBED TOMMY" (Richmond).—If the advertisement clearly stated that a woman was required, you were simply courting disappointment in applying for the job—unless, of course, you were superbly camouflaged.

T. R. H. and W. E. I. (Old Kent Road, S.E.).—Before we can say whether you ought to be allowed in picture palaces on Sunday evenings, you must tell us your ages and whether you have been vaccinated.

L. A. D. (Kensal Rise).—You should report your tram difficulties to the manager of the M. E. T., serving up your observations with lots of pep.

"A BRITON ABROAD" (Brussels).—British owners of businesses in Belgium, etc., ruined by the Germans, should be compensated by those gentry. The Consul in Brussels would forward your claim, surely.

"SCOTTY" (Nova Scotia).—Germany's "terms," after her temporary success in 1918, included annexation of Belgium, Calais and Northern France, Britain to give up bases, coaling stations, Gibraltar, Egypt, the Suez Canal, her Fleet—and lots of other little things, including payment of indemnity to Germany of at least 45,000,000,000 dollars! Now see how supine our rulers are.

MISS BARBARA COWLING (4, Tamar View, Launceston).—Glad to hear you so greatly appreciated the £1,000 cheque won in our Bullets Competition, No. 362. It certainly is a nice little nest egg.

M. J. D. (Porthcawl).—"I like to torment you." Very sweet of you, but so far you have afflicted us with nothing more serious than a slight irritation.

"ARCHIE" (Hackney).—Your letter urging the use of the "Cat" in cases of brutal outrage is but the pale reflection of our own weighty arguments.

"ROWTY" (Grimsby).—Mr. John Burns certainly did make the statement that nobody was worth more than £500 a year, but when he became a member of the Government at £5,000 a year he explained that he always stood for the trade union rate.

A. J. P. (Northallerton).—Your frenzied talk of "war with America" is beside the point. In our view, sound international relations are not furthered by blinking the truth.

"FAIRPLAY" (Edinburgh).—With so much of your letter as we can decipher we are in complete agreement. Do you write with a marling-spike?

"ARCHIE" (Hackney).—Your "Game of Nap between the Allies" verse is old enough to wear whiskers.

"CHINKSTONE" (Jerusalem).—"A period passes, then they are discarded as louts, Bulging importance and grave philosophical doubts." If we could write poetry like you, we shouldn't.

"EX-SOLDIER" (Wounded).—"I went to certain works for employment and the answer I got was that girls could do it better than us." They probably meant more cheaply.

T. H. C. (Southsea).—So a crowd of wild women from the States are planning a tour to make the world dry—*vide* Yankee press. Well, *bless 'em!* You know what we mean.

"CYCLOPS" (Ypres).—There is force in the argument that the order for cyclists to carry rear lights at night is for the benefit of mad motorists, to save them committing manslaughter. On the other hand, surely the lights make cyclists safer?

"ECONOMIST" (Chichester).—JOHN BULL Football Coupons may be posted in open envelopes bearing a ½d. stamp.

"DOLLAR" (St. Albans).—Your satirical reference to America's part in the war has tickled our staff immensely, especially the charlady.

W. V. P. (Wanstead).—We believe thoroughly in "conscientious hard work," and trust you are setting a powerful example.

J. A. E. H. (Edinburgh).—How should we know whether "there is any person alive of your own flesh and blood"? Better ask the missus to refresh your memory.

H. F. (Dawlish).—"Horatio Bottomley known as 'John Bull,' said prize bonds will make England's Treasury full, Legislators (How sainted!) held such money tainted; So pubs and the cinema still get the pull." The form is not that of the classic variety.

C. D. L. (Clent).—The better-class newspapers do not now publish half the nasty details of divorce cases that they did in days gone by. The improvement is still going on.

E. F. F. (Buraledon).—The arrangement by which you and your brother "make one JOHN BULL do between you" is the sort of thing that plays havoc with our circulation.

P. S. (Stoke-on-Trent).—Long ago Shakespeare told us we must take the current when it serves or lose our opportunities.

F. L. (Salford).—"I go in for everything and never get anything, whether I want it or not." Happy is he who expecteth nothing, for he shall not be disappointed.

"WENESSEX" (Witham).—"The name of the largest city in the world; also the smallest." Largest, New York. Smallest, London (one square mile, about).

"WIDOW."—Working at home for a London firm, you sew fingers and thumbs of gloves for 9s. 3d. per dozen pair, paying for needles and postage. They are men's tan gloves, and it takes three hours to do one pair—0½d.! Yet these are sold at 15s. 6d. Yes, poor woman, the London firm should increase your scanty dole.

J. B. H.—"Believe me we (Americans), don't care what you think." That explains why you write five pages of abuse about it.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

"The Greatest of These—"

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

Deleless and Destitute:—Ex-soldiers who have failed to obtain work and whose "doles" have expired, are with their families in a state of semi-starvation. Some of these heroes, too, are about to become fathers again, though there is no money to meet expenses. As far as we can do so, thanks to our friends, we bring sunshine into their homes.

"Bury My Brother":—A woman whose soldier brother had died uninsured asked us, with success, to save him from a pauper's grave.

Our System:—A discharged soldier, badly wounded, had also suffered as a prisoner-of-war. His young baby was very ill, and owing to his attendance on it he was too late to draw his out-of-work donation.

Tiding Over:—An ex-soldier, with wife and seven children, is in a sanitorium, and his eldest son—the only one fit for work—has gone to hospital for an operation. We are enabling them to tide over.

The Last Fence:—An ex-soldier has been ill for many weeks. His wife fed the kiddies by doing laundry work, but now she too is laid up.

Buried the Dead:—Another man who fought for us is workless, and has a wife and six children. One youngster died recently and the father borrowed the money to bury it to save a parish funeral. He then applied to us and we more than discharged the debt.

A SURVIVOR OF YPRES.

(A case typical of the many of distress and hardship which have been relieved by our Fund during the week.)

A poor fellow at Stockwell, 23 years of age, was discharged from the Army with shell-shock—caused, as he tells us, by "being blown up at Ypres." Although as recently as February 17th he was certified by his own doctor as "suffering from neurasthenia" and therefore "unable to follow his employment"—if he had had any, which, for months, he had not—the Pensions Authorities allowed him only 5s. 6d. weekly till the 2nd of February, even this slender pittance having been now withdrawn in deference to the decision of a Medical Board. Unless the verdict of the War Office doctors was sadly mistaken, the poor fellow has since suffered a bad relapse—for when our representative called he found the patient in an extremely feeble condition, due partly, no doubt, to lack of proper nourishment. Obviously the case was one for suitable advice with a view to a renewed appeal to the Ministry of Pensions; but the more immediate need was for financial assistance. The invalid, a married man, has been helped by his wife's and his own relatives to the full extent of their limited powers; still a little human sympathy from outside, and the practical aid of our "Greatest of These" Fund, have made all the difference between hope and despair.

[The object of our Fund is to relieve (a) the dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors, and (b) suffering amongst the people generally. No genuine appeal is ever refused, and although we see to it that adequate proof is presented in every case relieved, no harassing or degrading questions are put to applicants. Will you please help? We gladly defray all expenses of administration.]

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Elite Doll Co., £3 2s.; R. F. (New Southgate), 10s.; E. B. (Anerley), 10s.; D. B. (S. Africa), 2s. 6d.; "Three Wiltshire Readers," 4s.; C. T. H. (Reading), 1s.; "Fumi Fum," 2s. 6d.; "A Bard," 5s.; W. N. S., 2s. 6d.; M. K. (Battersea), 2s. 6d.; "Redaer-Aesnrehtiw," £6 10s.; "Bull Pup," 4s.; W. D. (Hastings), 2s. 6d.; M. E. S. (Beeston), 1s. 6d.; "Every Little Helps," 6d.; M. E. C. (Ealing), 2s. 6d.; L. C., 5s.; W. J. W. (New Cross), 10s.; "Exervis" (Bournemouth), 2s; B. M. B. (Stoke-on-Trent), 5s.; "Tidworth," £1; J. S. P. (Hull), 10s.; "Anti-Socialist," 10s.; W. J. N. (Swaythling), 5s.; "Baby Joyce," 2s.; H. C. T. (Stratford), 1s.; "Emu," 2s. 6d.; C. I. M. I. (Helsby), 5s.; C. P. (Charlton), 2s.; "Abe," 10s.; E. J. P. (Liverpool), 2s.; W. J. W. (Paris), 1s. 11½d.; "Kat's Eye," 1s.; Anon., 1s.; Pte. C. C., 3s. 6d.; H. M. (Penygraig), 2s. 6d.; R. E. (Liverpool), 7s. 6d.; B. T. A., 2s. 6d.; Anon. (Carlisle), 1s.; R. C. (Faversham), 5s. 6d.; "Two Constant Readers at Golder's Green," 2s. 6d.; M. N., 10s.; E. W. R. (Devon), 5s.; Mrs. C., 1s.; A. C. (Battersea), 2s. 6d. and parcel; "Old Trafford," £1; Proceeds of Cinema Show, Stanley Athletic Club, Falkland Isles (per J. W. H.), £12 4s.; "S. Ealing Reader," 2s.; "Splash," £5; B. H. (New Zealand), £1; J. F. (Govan), 1s.; H. S. B. (Callington), 5s.; "A Friend," £1; H. E. V. (Brighton), £2; Mrs. A. N. (W. Drayton), 5s.; "Bedford," 5s.; "Mother of Six," 2s.; "D.," 5s.; B. O. (Edinburgh), 5s.; "I Didn't Take It," 5s.; "In Memory of Dear Coo," 15s.; "A Well Wisher at Weybridge," 2s. 6d.; A. H. S. (Tundrage), £4; "Seventh Day Adventist," 10s.; "1914," £1; E. H. (Southend), 1s. 6d.; W. D. O. E. (Newbridge-on-Wye), 2s. 6d.; "Fair Play" (Surrey), 1s.; "H. H. H. H. H.," 5s.; "Green Ram," 5s.; E. G. (Macclesfield), 2s.; "One In Sympathy" (Bedford), 4s.; S. A. (Liscard), 2s.; R. M. G. (Acton), 10s.; C. W. (Japan), 1s. 6d.; A. B. (Bradford), 15s.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

Covering *ALL* risks by fire to Home, Life and Limb.

Watch This Figure Grow!

CLAIMS SETTLED

October 4, 1919	*(Last figures published)*	134
March 1, 1920	- - -	246

CONDITIONS.

This offer applies only to persons over 10 years and residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

Any number of persons in one family may be separately insured provided an order for JOHN BULL is placed and a registration form is forwarded in respect of each person.

Claims, which must be confined to one of the benefits, must be received by us within three days of the loss or damage, and in the case of death such death must occur within thirty days, and as a direct and sole result of the injury.

Payment will be made subject to any rights which the claimant may have or acquire against, or under, any other Insurance Scheme, Company, or otherwise, and the Proprietors of JOHN BULL shall not be liable until the registered reader has exhausted his or her rights under such insurance.

This offer applies only to the dwelling house, apartments, or dwelling rooms attached to business premises, of the registered reader, but not to business premises or stock-in-trade.

We reserve to ourselves the right to limit our total payments under this scheme to £10,000, and to discontinue, or make any variation of this offer by the publication of notice in JOHN BULL. The decision of the proprietors of JOHN BULL upon all questions shall be final.

In order to safeguard ourselves it is stipulated that a fire will not be recognised as such unless a call has been made upon the local Fire Brigade or appliance.

For further particulars see page 24.

THE FAMOUS
5/- SAFETY RAZOR

Complete with seven 'GEM' Damaskeene Blades and stropping attachment.

Extra 'GEM' Damaskeene Blades in sealed packets 7 for 2/-.

'GEM'
is keen to shave *you*

THE GEM SAFETY RAZOR CO. LTD.
134, Great Portland Street, London, W. 1.

BIGGEST OFFER EVER MADE!

'Bullets' Again Breaks All Records!

FIRST £1,000 PRIZE

2ND PRIZE £250 — 3RD PRIZE £100

Over 10,000 Prizes value £2,250 must be won!

10 Prizes of £5 each — **10 Prizes of £2·10 each**

100 PRIZES of £1 each

500 Prizes of 5/- each — **1,500 Prizes of 2/6 each**

and 8,000 TARGET PRIZES.

Closing Date, Thursday, March 18th.

No.
Example
Bullet
Example
Bullet

(367) P.O. No.

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 1 coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.

Signed
Address

IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

Closing Date, Thursday, March 18th.

No.
Example
Bullet
Example
Bullet

(367) P.O. No.

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.

Signed
Address

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No. 367, "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

Closing Date, Thursday, March 18th.

No.
Example
Bullet
Example
Bullet

(367) P.O. No.

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 5 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.

Signed
Address

Closing Date, Thursday, March 18th.

No.
Example
Bullet
Example
Bullet

(367) P.O. No.

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 2s. must be sent.

Signed
Address

Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 366.

THE BRITISH ARMY—UNNECESSARY—KNOWING THE ROPES—OUR UNDOING—WHEN WANTED—POPULAR WIN—THINKING TWICE—SPRING CLEANING—BAD BUSINESS—WITHOUT BOTTOMLEY—AT IT AGAIN—GET RICH QUICK—PAINLESS EXTRACTION—IN THE CLOUDS—FACE AND FORTUNE—PUBLIC SPIRIT—REAPING THE BENEFIT—PAYING THE PIPER—MUST BE WON—IDLING.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, Mar. 25th.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number **366** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 366, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Forty examples for competition 367.

Result of "Bullets" Competition No. 364 will be found on the opposite page.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Forty examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. These examples will guide you. Example:—FIGHTING FOR PURSE. Bullet:—NOT THE TIMID WIFE. Example:—AT WORK AGAIN. Bullet:—TOMMY'S FERVENT HOPE. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent. Result of this Competition will be found in our issue dated April 3rd.

EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 367.

BOTTOMLEY'S POLITICAL BOMBSHELL	CHEAP SUITS
THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR	FOOTBALL
MISTRESS AND MAID	CUP THAT CHEERS
OUR CHAMPION	DIRECT ACTION
FOR SHAME	BEWARE
MISSING LINK	A DUD LOT
WHAT TOMMY ASKS	SPOILS OF WAR
BRAGGING	BUSY BEE
THE WEAKER SEX	SIMPLE SIMON
WHAT PUBLIC WANTS	SOCIALISM
ASQUITH'S FUTURE	HIS WORSHIP
UPSETTING THE COALITION	WAKE UP ENGLAND
HAMMERING AWAY	MODEL HUSBAND
BEST FORGOTTEN	QUESTION OF THE HOUR
FIGHTING FOR PURSE	PROVOKING THOUGHT
AFTER A FASHION	NO PLACE FOR TOMMY
AT WORK AGAIN	POLICEMAN'S LOT
POOR MAN	OVERTAXED
GOING TO EXTREMES	LABOUR IN VAIN
	OUR WORST ENEMY
	NOW AND THEN

BULLETS RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d., made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

List of 10s. Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition, No. 364, will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete list of all Cash and other Prizewinners can be seen at the offices of "John Bull."

THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 16 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our Insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ..	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM
To be Retained by Newsagent.

To .....
Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice

Signed .....

Address .....

March 6, 1920.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept. 36, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM
Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

.....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address .....

Signature of Insured .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address .....

March 6, 1920. .....

To remain qualified for the benefit, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

ONE-WEEK COMPETITION

£500 MUST BE WON

£500 MUST BE WON!

ONE-WEEK COMPETITION

£500 MUST BE WON

For Ten Winning Teams

OR NEXT LARGEST NUMBER OF WINNING TEAMS

This Competition is exclusive to "John Bull."

COUPONS DO NOT APPEAR IN ANY OTHER PAPER.

NO ENTRANCE FEE — GREAT ONE-WEEK COMPETITION!

FOR THIS WEEK ONLY we are offering a special £500 must-be-won Football Prize. The sum of £500 will be paid to the sender of any ten winning teams selected from those taking part in the matches given on the coupon on this page. Should no competitor succeed in giving ten winning teams, the prize of £500 will be awarded to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams. Remember this competition is open for **THIS WEEK ONLY**, and coupons can only be taken from this issue. **£500 MUST BE WON THIS WEEK, SO SEND IN YOUR COUPON WITHOUT DELAY.**

£6,950 ALREADY PAID OUT

THIS SEASON. HAVE YOU HAD YOUR PRIZE?

This competition is quite free, no entrance fee of any kind being charged. Competitors can send as many coupons as they like. Scottish and Irish readers may compete. A careful study of football form should be made before filling in coupons. The "National News" gives the best and most accurate reports and forecasts every Sunday, which should prove of great assistance to intending competitors.

For Result of Football Competition No. 23 see Page 16.

Read these rules carefully.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from the issue of JOHN BULL announcing this competition. Coupons must be written in ink (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed), and must be filled up in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £500 (Five Hundred Pounds) will be paid to the sender of a coupon giving any ten winning teams from amongst those playing on March 13th, given on the coupon on this page and as set out on that coupon. If no competitor succeeds in giving ten winning teams the prize of £500 will be paid to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams as described above. If two or more competitors succeed in giving ten winning teams, or, failing that, succeed in sending the next largest number of winning teams, the £500 will be divided equally amongst them.

(3) Should any match not be played to a finish on the date given or as set out on the coupon, it will be disregarded, and winning teams from the remaining fixtures only will be allowed to count.

(4) Any coupon which has marked upon it more than ten Xs or less than ten Xs will be disqualified.

(5) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into, nor will interviews be granted.

(6) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified.

(7) Our employees are debarred from entering the competition.

(8) Any coupons received later than first post on March 11th will be disqualified.

(9) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Cut out coupon neatly and address all entries as follows:—**"Football Competition No. 26, JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2."** Write "Football" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but not with entries for other competitions.

SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS YOU LIKE.

HOW TO MARK YOUR COUPONS.

If you think the "Home" team will win put a X in the left-hand column headed "Home Win"; if you think the "Away" team will win put a X in the right-hand column headed "Away Win." Only ten teams must be marked in all. **If more or less than ten Xs appear on any one coupon it will be disqualified. Coupons MUST be written in ink.**

"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.

Matches to be played Saturday, March 13th. Coupons must reach us not later than Thursday, March 11th.

Home Win	Home Team		Away Team	Away Win
	The Arsenal	v.	Sheffield United.	
	Blackburn Rovers	v.	Newcastle United	
	Bolton Wanderers	v.	Aston Villa	
	Manchester City	v.	Bradford	
	Notts County	v.	Chelsea	
	Sheffield Wednesday	v.	Liverpool	
	Coventry City	v.	Stockport County	
	Grimsby Town	v.	Bury	
	West Ham United	v.	Tottenham Hotspur	
	Bristol City	v.	South Shields	
	Bristol Rovers	v.	Norwich City	
	Merthyr Town	v.	Watford	
	Southampton	v.	Crystal Palace	
	Plymouth Argyle	v.	Brentford	

Coupons must be cut not torn out.

I enter "John Bull" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

SIGNED .....

26 ADDRESS .....

.....

Result of 364th 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:
Mr. P. SLATER,
Parkhurst, Newton Park, Leeds.
Example:—BEFORE STRIKING.
Bullet:—LET FACTS "COME OUT."

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:
Mr. W. BLANCHFLOWER,
Norwood, Churchfield Rd. Walton-on-Thames.
Example:—WHEN IN DOUBT.
Bullet:—WINSTON CONSULTS CHURCHILL.

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:
Mr. S. G. SURROUGHS,
32, York Rd., Salisbury.
Example:—IN THE GARDEN.
Bullet:—ONE'S EFFORTS "PAID BACK."

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

MR. J. V. CLUBE, 3, Infirmary Rd., Dublin: ENGAGING MAID—UNNECESSARY IN IDEAL HOME.

MR. R. VINCENT, 5, Wilton Terr., Hornsea: FACTS AND FIGURES—OFTEN PROVE, SELDOM CONVICT.

MR. P. ROADLEY, 6, Moor Lane, Loughborough: WHEN IN DOUBT — CONSULT SCIENCE, NOT SEANCE.

MR. W. D. RAMSAY, 274, Derington Rd., Tooting: BEFORE STRIKING—OFF CONTROL, GUARANTEE SUPPLIES.

MR. A. R. BARNES, 30, Leap Hill Rd., Bournemouth: WITHOUT A MASTER—SITUATION COALITION HAS CREATED.

MR. K. CRANKSHAW, Flat 4, 97, Buckingham Rd., Brighton: WELSH WIZARD—WESTMINSTER "OAK," CONFERENCE "WILLOW."

MR. T. MERCHANT, 128, Thames Rd., Attercliffe: THE RIGHT HOME — FOR PRIDE TO-DAY—POCKET.

MR. N. AMUM, 16, Flannel St., Abergavenny: PARTY SPIRIT—MAKES GOOD MEN "INCAPABLE."

MR. G. H. WAKEFIELD, 16, Hambliton Terr., York: WORK OF ART—TILL CRITIC DECIDED OTHERWISE.

MR. J. E. JONES, 19, Osterley Rd., Stoke Newington, N.16: NOT IN AGREEMENT—OR COALITION MIGHT ACT.

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

MR. E. L. TAYLOR, 9, Hill Lane, Southampton: THE RIGHT HOME—PUGILIST GETS—THEN BUTS.

MR. R. CONNELL, 78, Volta St., Selby: LOSING GAME—NOT PLAYED BY NEUTRALS.

MR. C. CANSFIELD, c/o Messrs. Fisher, Ltd., Idle, nr. Bradford: BETTER DRINK — THE KAISER'S HEALTH APPARENTLY.

MR. T. LAIRD, Buccleuch Terr., Wishaw, N.B.: POSTMAN'S KNOCK—MAKES MOTHER "DOWN TOOLS."

MR. J. W. SAVILLE, 20, Ely Place, Dublin: THE RIGHT HOME — NO "SCRAPS" OR "LEAVINGS."

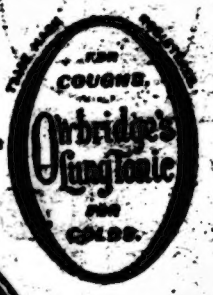
MR. H. HARMER, 3, Bracken St., Ingrow, Yorks: GOVERNMENT SALES—ONLY PLACES PRICE DROPS.

MR. A. BARRATT, 96, Edward Rd., W. Bridgford, Notts: LOSING GAME—WEAK "BACKS" IN GOVERNMENT.

C.Q.M.S. BELL, 3, Beccles Rd., Lowestoft: EXCITING TIMES—"OPPOSITE" SEX IN PARLIAMENT.

MR. W. THOMAS, 76, Portland St., Norwich: WHAT AMERICA'S DOING—TREATING BULLDOG A PUPPY.

MR. W. THOMAS, 76, Portland St., Norwich: —nr. Leeds: WELSH WIZARD—PAINTS HIS OWN SCENERY.



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